

VIA MARSEILLES.]

The London and China Telegraph.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY ON ARRIVAL OF THE P. & O. MESSAGERIES AND PACIFIC MAILS FROM CHINA, JAPAN, STRAITS SETTLEMENTS, &c

IN CONNECTION WITH THE "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS." A WEEKLY SUMMARY FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS.

VOL. XVII.—No. 617.]

LONDON, MONDAY, JUNE 28, 1875.

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Latest Advices.

PORTS.	OUTWARD.		HOMeward.
	From London.	Arrived out.	Received June 24.
JAPAN—Yokohama	Mar. 19	May 4	May 5
Yedo	—	—	1
Osaka and Hiogo	—	—	3
Hakodadi	—	—	1
Nagasaki	—	—	4
CHINA—Peking	—	—	2
Tien-tsin	—	—	4
Chefoo	—	—	2
New-chwang	—	—	4
Hankow	Feb. 26	April 26	4
Kin-kiang	—	—	5
Chin-kiang	—	—	9
Shanghai	Mar. 19	May 3	7
Ningpo	—	—	9
Poochow	" 19	" 3	11
Formosa	—	—	12
Amoy	—	—	13
Swatow	—	—	15
Hong Kong	April 2	" 9	13
Canton	—	—	14
Macao	—	—	11
PHILIPPINES—	—	—	—
Manila	Mar. 26	" 5	11
COCHIN-CHINA—	—	—	—
Saigon	April 9	" 12	20
SIAM—Bangkok	—	—	14
BORNEO—	—	—	—
Labuan	—	—	13
Sarawak	—	—	15
JAVA—Batavia	" 16	" 19	20
Samarang	—	—	18
Sourabaya	—	—	15
MALACCA STRAITS—	—	—	—
Singapore	" 16	" 15	23
Penang	" 16	" 13	17
CEYLON—	—	—	—
Galle	May 7	" 30	30
Colombo	April 30	" 23	29

THE MAILS, &c.

The French mail, bringing the above advices, was delivered, via Marseilles, on the 24th inst., being four days early. The next inward (P. and O.) mail, with advices Yokohama 12th, Shanghai 16th, Hong Kong 22nd, Singapore 30th May, which is due, via Brindisi, on Monday next, the 5th prox., left Galle on its due date, the 10th inst.

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

By this mail to Marseilles, per Messageries Maritimes steamer *Sindh*, arrived June 23.—From Yokohama: Mr. Katsoura (attache to the Japanese Legation in Berlin). From Shanghai: Messrs. Kendall, Mitchell, Relpot, Pereira, Teillot, De Rosalis, Voigt. From Hong Kong: Messrs. MacLean, De Coster, Schleppe, Kleczkowski, D'Avila, Joly. From Saigon: Messrs. Hauss, Lousteau, Fricot, Brecard, Moty, Mdille. Floret. From Singapore: Mr. and Mrs. Armstrong, Mr. and Mrs. Cotello, Mr. and Mrs. Brown, Mr. and Mrs. Percival, Mr. and Mrs. Rome, Mr. and Mrs. Jansen, Mr. and Mrs. De Rochemont, Mr. and Mrs. Leejens, Mr. and Mrs. Guerin, the Baroness Von Reede, Mdme. De Almeida, Messrs. Garcia, Martinez, Mazetti, Celestini, Montanez, Barrachina, Brinck, Crommelin, Balfour, Genslius, MacIntyre, Tromp, Bruyn, Battry, Hartung, Mounnier, Champion, Isemonger, Neave, Zamacois, Elie, Pickham, Chabert, Fife. From Galle: Mr. Fraser, Mr. Atkins.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per P. and O. steamer *Baroda*, from Brindisi, June 23.—To Singapore: Mr. T. C. Easton. To Ceylon: Mr. Birch, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Scott. Per P. and O. steamer *Mirzapore*, from Southampton, July 1.—To Yokohama: Mrs. C. Christenson. To Hong Kong: Lieut. J. F. Bedford. To Ceylon: Miss Vanderspar, Miss L. Vanderspar.

Per French steamer *Meikong*, from Marseilles, July 4.—To Batavia: Mr. Rombouts. Per French steamer *Amazon*, from Marseilles, July 18.—To Yokohama: Mr. Chapais. To Galle: Mr. Hassaner.

Per French steamer *Anadyr*, from Marseilles, August 1.—To Batavia: Mr. Van B. Vanderspar. To Singapore: Mr. and Mrs. van der Erb.

Per French steamer *Tigre*, from Marseilles, Aug. 29.—To Saigon: Mr. Andrew Spooner.

Per French steamer *Hoogly*, from Marseilles, Sept. 26.—To Singapore: Mr. and Mrs. Goldie.

Per steamer *Quang-Sa*, from London June 24.—To Singapore: Mr. C. G. Graham.

Per steamer *Naples*, from London June 28.—To Singapore: Capt. Gutsmuths. To Hong Kong: Capt. Patterson.

Per steamer *Stentor* (Holt's line), from Liverpool June 25.—To Singapore: Mr. Willan. To Shanghai: Mr. Simpson.

Summary of News from the Far East.

JAPAN.

YOKOHAMA.

Our advices from this port by the present mail extend to the 5th May; the P. and O. mail from London March 19 arrived out on the 4th May.

The *Japan Gazette* says:—Within a fortnight of the consummation of a series of embezzlements, involving the loss to the local branch of the Comptoir d'Escompte de Paris of a very large sum of money, another and identically similar fraud has been perpetrated in this Settlement, and although the sum appropriated is, as far as is at present known, not so large as in the former case, it is large enough to render the matter a serious one, to cause outsiders to indulge in speculations as to whether the system of conducting the business of banking in the Far East is a sound one. In the case of the French Bank the defaulters were Europeans, men who, up to the time of the discovery of their misdeeds, had moved in good society, and had been really "above suspicion." The Deutsche Bank, which is about closing up its business here, is now the victim, and the defaulter, a Chinaman named King Yao, who has for some years been employed by that corporation in the responsible position of compradore. The amount deficient is \$28,000, which loss will probably be total, as of the two men (Chinamen) who first became sureties for him, one is dead, and the other has left for China. The total amount guaranteed, we are informed (but not officially), was only \$4,000. The defaulter, probably thinking that, the bank being about to close operations here, discovery was imminent, voluntarily acknowledged his crime to the cashier, Mr. Hubner. It is surmised that he has been for some time past speculating in exchange, and has made heavy losses, and that he has only recently appropriated the sum deficient. A Japanese employed on the bank premises saw him burning a lot of papers, but the manager found a book belonging to him, detailing the several amounts taken. They represent the appropriations as having extended over a considerable period of time, and this is what is supposed to cast a doubt on the genuineness of the entries. Immediately on the acknowledgment of his guilt the matter was communicated to the German Consul, and two officials of the Saibansho having been sent to the bank, the culprit was bound with cords and taken to jail. It appears that he had already served a term of fifteen years in Hong Kong, for the embezzlement of no less a sum than \$60,000 from a leading firm there, and that immediately on his release he came to Yokohama. How, under such circumstances, he succeeded in obtaining so responsible a position here, seems, in the face of it, strange indeed. We believe he has a son employed as compradore in the French Bank.

The following items of news are from the *Japan Mail*:—

The following story is curious, but seems to require confirmation:—On the 30th March, a small steam-vessel of "ordinary size" made its appearance at a village in the district of Amakusa in Shirakawa ken, and without introductory parley fired some five or six times at the undefended houses. One of the shots struck the house of a certain Kawakami Sekichi, and the villagers, greatly alarmed, sought for the help of the police. Pending their arrival, however, the vessel had disappeared. Intimation of the event was duly conveyed to the heads of the ken, the Naimusho and to the Naval Department, but the *Nishin Shin-jishi*, from which we translate the story, does not tell us the result of their investigation.

The preliminary investigation into the recent French Bank robbery has resulted in Adds, through whom Swaby and Cantelli purchased the schooner *Iris*, and who accompanied them in

their attempted escape, being committed for trial as an accomplice. Captain Withers, who commanded the vessel, was acquitted. The total sum embezzled was stated by M. Vouillemont, the agent of the bank, at \$67,775, of which about \$47,000 will, it is hoped, be recovered.

A correspondent of the *Hochi Shimbun*, at Kobe, gives a lamentable account of the decaying prosperity of the southern settlement. Trade, he says, is declining just as at Yokohama, and many of those who were attracted to the port by its early success are now returning to their former homes in the interior. Unoccupied houses are but too common, and it is unsatisfactory to learn that the only public works in course of construction are the jail buildings.

A new newspaper enterprise, the *Eiri Shimbun* (Illustrated News), has been brought to light at Yedo. The proprietors are actors, and the paper is therefore likely to receive the patronage of the fair sex.

The police of Yedo is apparently resolved to suppress not only the traffic in rabbits but also the domestication of these animals. Several persons have been recently punished for having them in their possession.

(LATER ADVICES BY PACIFIC MAIL.)

The Pacific Mail Company's steamer *City of Tokio* arrived at San Francisco on the 9th inst., with advices from Yokohama to the 23rd May, and the following summary has been telegraphed to the New York press:—

Within the last month several additional defalcations have been discovered in leading Yokohama houses, mostly committed by Chinese. (The Deutsche bank suffered to the extent of \$28,000, and Walsh, Hall, and Co. \$6,000.

The Japanese financial estimates for the first half of the current year show a surplus of some \$1,000,000.

A library of 20,000 foreign volumes has just been established in Yedo by the Educational Department.

The general supervision of contributions to the Philadelphia Centennial has been placed in the hands of the Minister of the Interior.

New and valuable lead mines have just been discovered in the province of Satsuma.

CHINA.

PEKING AND TIENTSIN.

The Tientsin correspondent of the *North China Herald* writes as follows:—

There is no interesting news in the late *Peking Gazette*, and I have heard of nothing particular going on. I am in receipt of a letter dated April 30, in which the writer says:—"I hear that the Chinese were rude to the foreigners at the races at Peking." As the Yunnan affair, as we all know here, is at present being much talked about both by the higher and the lower classes of Chinese, as well at Peking as at Tientsin, and as the late and still continuing exodus of a number of families from the Legations in Peking has led the populace of both places naturally to jump to the idea that the foreigners of the capital are leaving Peking because they are apprehensive of troubles with the central Government, it does not surprise me in the least that we should now hear the lower orders of people at Peking have manifested their dislike to foreigners at the Peking races.

H. E. Sun-tze-ta has furnished each of the Consulates here with a Chinese chart of the Peiho, showing the places where the grain junks will moor and anchor while in the port. Marks have been put up at the extremities of the different places as a guide to the junks to place themselves. The Taoutai deserves considerable praise for his exertions in this matter, the arranging of which was much required to prevent collisions between the steamers and junks while navigating this narrow river.

On the 30th April Herr von Brandt, the German Envoy, left here for Peking. Mr. Waeber, the Russian Consul, and Mr. Hart, Inspector-General of Customs, have also left for Peking. Mr. Mayers, Her Majesty's Chinese Secretary of Legation, with his family, has reached here from Peking, and proceeds on to Chefoo.

The weather has been extremely boisterous. On the evening of the 28th April, at the end of a day's dust storm, we had a violent thunder storm with rain; and as at this season of the year we naturally look for having, after any rain, calm, fine weather, we were much disappointed in having during the whole of the 29th a furious gale from the north, with another dense dust storm. On the morning of the 28th I saw a flock of some thirty wild geese flying south.

KIUKIANG.

A serious riot occurred at Kiukiang on the 1st May. A mob attacked the American Mission premises and completely smashed the contents. No harm was done to individuals, nor does any ill-will seem to have been shown to the missionaries by the respectable inhabitants. A correspondent of the *Celestial Empire* gives the following narrative of the occurrence:—

There has been a serious assault upon the Methodist Episcopal

Chapel in the city. The chapel is situated on the main street of the city, about half-a-mile inside of the West Gate, and is a good substantial building, erected about two years ago on land purchased by the Mission. The chapel with its fittings cost somewhere near two thousand dollars, besides which there were, at the back of the edifice, rooms for the native preacher and his family, rooms for two day-schools for the members' class-room, and the chapel-keeper's room, in fact, a well-fitted Mission station. So you can form a pretty good idea of the value of the property, and the importance of the position in the principal thoroughfare of the city. After the preaching and schools were over about 4 P.M., a man who lives next door to the chapel looked into the chapel-keeper's room, and asked if his son was there? No, replied the chapel-keeper, he is not here, neither have I seen him. The man was not satisfied, but persisted in saying his son was there, and he knew they had him, and that the foreigners wanted to take the boy's heart and eyes out, to make medicine. This seems to have aroused the chapel-keeper's ire, for he replied with indignation that foreigners did nothing of the sort, and wondered that the man could be such a fool as to think so. While the two men were arguing the matter, a large crowd gathered in the narrow street, the man shouting at the top of his voice that his son was in the foreign chapel, and that they wanted the boy's heart and eyes for medicine. At the same time the two men took to the last resort of kings, and fought in the narrow street just in front of the chapel; and the crowd began throwing stones at the doors and windows, finally smashing in both, and pouring into the chapel, where in a very short time stools, benches, pulpit, railing, and chairs were reduced to firewood; from thence into the school-rooms, one after the other, then into the class rooms, making a clean sweep of desks, tables, stools, chairs, &c.,—finally cleaning out the preacher's room, and taking his bed, bedding, clothes, furniture, and everything belonging to him; but the preacher himself got into the settlement, with his wife and child safely. I hear that the Er-foo (Deputy magistrate) was on the spot with the runners from his yamen, but could do (?) or at least did—nothing to quell the disturbance, which must have been known at all the yamens, none but the Chen-tai's yamen being more than five minutes' walk from the chapel. I visited the chapel next morning, and found doors, windows and internal fittings all broken; a large crowd was in the street, but nothing uncivil was said.

I have learned since that the Taoutai has been energetic in hunting up the vagabonds who gutted the Mission Chapel; the Yamen runners have caught a good many of them, and on being taken to the Yamen, they received a pretty severe thrashing. The Che-hsien has issued a proclamation, in which he informs the people he will deal severely with anyone found creating a disturbance, or spreading false reports.

SHANGHAI.

The present mail brings advices from this port to the 9th May; the P. and O. mail from London, March 19, was received on the 3rd May, and the overdue mail of 5th March, delayed by the breaking down of the P. and O. steamer *Gwalior*, was received on the 5th May. The following summary of news is from the *North China Herald*:—

We have seen a translation of the Taoutai's circular to the native merchants, which we referred to last week in our news summary. The move appears to be very similar to that of the Customs Taoutai at Tientsin, and is not a happy inauguration of the Taoutai's reign. A defence tax was imposed in Shanghai during the days of the rebellion, and has never been abandoned, although the collection has been materially relaxed. The Taoutai now insists on its full payment, and the *Shunpao* very pertinently asks why Shanghai of all places should be subjected to such an impost? For it seems to be peculiar to Shanghai; and the *Shunpao* might have remarked that Shanghai has always been indebted for its defence—even during the rebel times when the tax was instituted—to the protection of foreigners. It is a common remark among Chinese at the present day, in case of any trouble here—"If foreigners are driven from Shanghai, there will be no safe place in China."

We understand that the Chinese have resolved to ship no more sugar and chow-chow cargo until the matter is settled, and so far they have carried out the intention. We are told that the Taoutai is beginning to feel his position untenable, and that a retreat on his part will probably soon complete the resemblance to the Tientsin episode. In the meantime the measures taken by his emissaries appear calculated to give the greatest amount of irritation. Two cases which occurred a few days ago have given great offence. While two native hongmen were taking delivery of cargo with their cargo books in their hands, these were snatched away by the tax-collectors, and were lodged in Court before the Taoutai. One man was fined Tls. 630, and the other Tls. 450. We cannot but think the present opportunity might be taken to make a strong move for the abolition of such an anomaly as the Defence Tax altogether.

Three days have been monopolised by our Spring Race Meeting, which took place under the happiest auspices as regards weather, and afforded good sport. That it should have been so is matter for congratulation both for the sake of men interested in the sports and of those who look on race week as an opportunity to go away for a trip. The number of house-boats which went away on the 1st May shows that the exodus up-country was not less than usual; but we do not hear of so many people going to the Snowy Valley. A rumour which has got abroad

that the quarters there are going to grief probably deterred some. The priests collected some money among foreigners not long ago, for the avowed purpose of repairing the dwelling-rooms at the Temple; but the design does not appear to have been carried out. The fine weather which so luckily prevailed on the three race days broke up altogether on the night of the 6th May. Heavy rain during the night and throughout the next morning effectually stopped further sport, and the stewards wisely postponed the fourth day till the 10th.

During the ensuing week we are likely to be busy on Municipal matters, the 11th May being the day fixed for the Ratepayers' meeting. There is a report that the meeting is likely to be postponed till the 18th, in consequence of the non-readiness of the printed documents that have to be circulated beforehand. But we are without official announcement. As yet, only the Estimates for 1875 have been so circulated; and even if the Report can be sent round in reasonable time, there will remain the revised Land Regulations which ought certainly to be in the hands of the ratepayers several days before the meeting. The combined business will hardly be got through in one day.

From the documents appended to the minutes of the French Council meeting we observe that the arbitrators have recommended that the Yank-king-pang bund shall remain as it is. They decide against the encroachment on principle, both as to its interference with navigation, and as possibly prejudicing the rights of riverine proprietors. "Every isolated construction which encroaches on a narrow and usually encumbered canal must more or less diminish the facilities of navigation, if it is not executed on scientific principles and conformably to a plan conceived with the object of ameliorating the course of the water way; and consequently it may prejudice more or less the interests of riverine proprietors on the opposite bank." As regards the question raised by the French, whether the English Council has not also encroached, the arbitrators have no sufficient data to decide. "But as the jetties built on this (North) bank are isolated works, they must, if they depress the original banks, be regarded as encroachments," and as more or less affecting free navigation, and liable, therefore, more or less, to prejudice the interests of riverine proprietors on the other side. That, of course, is clear; the question is whether they are encroachments at all. However this may be, the arbitrators recommend that matters be left as they are, and that an undertaking be come to between the two Councils as to the future. The effect of this decision seems to be to confirm an admitted encroachment, which the arbitrators admit is a prejudicial one. To quote the words of the English statement, "the creek is narrowed some twelve to fourteen feet; and this (English) Municipality, instead of enjoying the advantage of a water-course fifty feet wide as originally intended, will only have one thirty-six to thirty-eight feet, and the French Municipality become possessed of land to which they are in no wise entitled."

We mentioned last week that two of the men concerned in the attack on Mr. Cooper near Quinsan had been captured and brought down to Shanghai. One of them is said to be the cousin to the man who was wounded; but the lowdahs say all he did was to retake a bamboo which had been wrested from the assailants by the foreigners, and handed over to one of the boatmen. Otherwise he was fairly quiet. The second man, however, is declared to have taken an active part in chopping the boat's sail and rigging, and otherwise leading on the mob. It is fortunate so prominent a culprit has been caught. We understand that H.B.M. Consul has claimed from the Taoutai a formal investigation, and has signified his intention to be present at the hearing, either in person or by deputy, no matter whether the case is heard at Quinsan or in Shanghai. The two Chinamen are still in the hands of the police, awaiting the decision of the Consul and Taoutai as to their disposal.

Two heavy fires have occurred in the English Settlement; one in the Malao, between the Shanse and Fohkien-roads, burned down sixteen houses; a second, originating in Fohkien-road, spread to Taiwan-road, and destroyed 116 houses. About four o'clock on the morning of the 2nd May several bamboo huts near the Broadway, Hongkew, tenanted by coolies, were burnt down; and at about the same hour on the afternoon of the 4th five others, on the bank of the Soochow Creek, were destroyed in like manner.

Some documents have been made public which throw strong light on the origin of the outrage upon Mr. Margary. It is quite likely, as Indian papers affirm, that the King of Burmah may have had an active finger in the pie; but these documents bring the direct guilt very startlingly home to the Chinese. There are four documents, of which two give distinct evidence of the advent of a large force from Momein, with the object of attacking the English. One letter predicts the day of the attack, and warns a Burmese official in the English camp to quit it for his life, adding that the warning is given by order of the Chinese. Another mentions the arrival of the Momein force at Manwein, under the command of one Shoon—a nephew of the Li-su of whom we heard so much in connection with Major Sladen's expedition. Li seems to have been at that time a sort of partisan leader, fighting for the Imperialists; he now holds the rank of Colonel, and is military commandant of the district. The inference clearly is that the attack was organised directly by him,

quite possibly in collusion with the King of Burmah. Mr. Allen, of the Consular Service, and who accompanied Colonel Browne's expedition to Burmah, has arrived. We learn that Colonel Browne will be shortly on his way here.

We are glad to find that it is proposed to collect a memorial fund in honour of the late Mr. Margary. The subscription is limited to \$5, but any sum from \$1 up to that amount will be received. The subscription sheet lies at the Shanghai Club, and has already received a numerous list of names. It is proposed that the form of memorial shall be left to the subscribers. A memorial window or a tablet has been proposed. Possibly, if the sum subscribed be large, some other and better idea might be entertained.

On the 3rd May H.M. corvette *Modeste* got up steam and proceeded down the river *en voyage* to Hankow. Later in the day H.M. despatch-boat *Vigilant*, having on board his Excellency T. F. Wade, C.B., and Admiral Ryder, Commander-in-Chief on the China Station, also left the harbour for the same destination.

Shanghai has been thoroughly beaten in the Nagasaki regatta. A private telegram has been received, running: "Kobé first, Nagasaki second, Shanghai 100 yards behind. Our class of boat no use against theirs. Weather rough; raining hard. Sculling races postponed till to-morrow."

The C.M.S.S. *Fei Yuen* is in dock, having the finishing touches put upon the extensive alterations she has been undergoing for some weeks past—preparatory, it is said, for a voyage to England.

On the site of the old Hermitage at Sicawei has been erected a new and more imposing building as a place of entertainment, to celebrate the opening of which a *bal masque* is announced to take place this evening.

HONG KONG.

Our advices by the present mail extend to the 15th May; the P. and O. mail from London April 2 was received on the 9th May. The following items of intelligence are from the *Daily Press*—

H.E. Shen Pao Chen—Imperial Commissioner at the Arsenal—is, says the *Foochow Herald*, hourly expected from Formosa. His Excellency is the official specially charged with the investigation and settlement of the Great Northern Telegraph Company's claims. During the absence of his Excellency from Foochow, his powers were delegated to certain officers of the Provincial Government, who having already arrived at a decision (favourable, we believe, to the Company) now only await the Commissioner's return, to make known the result of their deliberations.

We understand that the subscription lists for the erection of the new Swimming Bath of the Victoria Recreation Club are now lying at the Hong Kong and German Clubs, at Messrs. Lane, Crawford, and Co.'s, and at the Victoria Recreation Club Buildings. It is hoped that a sufficient sum will soon be subscribed to enable the committee to erect the building.

While one of Messrs. Hook, Son, and Co.'s cargo boats was discharging cargo opposite Messrs. Schellhass and Co.'s premises, the aft mast gave way, breaking right in the middle. One of the coolies employed on board was struck on the back, and sustained such injuries as necessitated his removal to the hospital.

We understand that the Chinese Government intend to introduce the quinine, gutta-percha, and india-rubber plants for cultivation in Formosa; and M. Giquel, who has recently gone home, has, we believe, been commissioned to make the necessary inquiries to this end.

A Court of Inquiry was held in Hong Kong on the 13th May, at the request of the captain himself, into the circumstances attending the grounding of the British steamer *Viking*, Captain Tannock, on the Bombay Shoal, at 2.33 a.m. on the 14th April, on the voyage from Singapore to Hong Kong. Five hundred tons of cargo were thrown overboard, and endeavours made to get the ship off, by means of kedges over each quarter, and driving the engines full speed astern; she was got off at 11.15 a.m. of the 16th April, having been fifty-seven hours aground. After getting afloat the ship made three inches of water per hour in the fore compartment. The only cargo damaged was some iron. After the evidence had been concluded, Mr. Brereton, who appeared as counsel for Captain Tannock, desired to address the Court in behalf of his client, to which the Court objected, as it had not been permitted on previous occasions; Mr. Brereton desired to have the question of his right to address the Court definitely settled, and the inquiry was therefore adjourned in order to obtain the opinion of the Attorney-General on this point.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

SINGAPORE.

The present mail brings advices from this port to the 23rd May; no later mail from London had been received. The following summary of news is from the *Straits Times*:—

We have received the report of the Sub-Committee of the Legislative Council on the question of establishing Savings Banks in the colony, laid before that body on the 4th May. Though the Committee have unanimously signed the Report, some of them are in doubt as to the financial success of the institution, and the rate of interest to be allowed; it is recommended that the experiment be tried first in Singapore, in connection with the Post-office, and should the result be encouraging, to extend it to the other settlements afterwards. The object is undoubtedly good, but as no such institution has ever been in existence here, it is not at all probable that during the first year the natives will sufficiently appreciate the benefits of the establishment to patronise it to any extent, and it will take two or three years at least to give them confidence in the concern. If the Bank is to be given a trial at all we think the Government should determine to maintain it for at least two years, whether patronised or not; for a hasty abandonment would doubtless justify, to the native mind, their hesitation to avail of this means for hoarding their savings.

A numerously attended meeting has been held in the Exchange, for the purpose of organising the proper measures to carry out the resolution come to some time ago, to present Sir Andrew Clarke with a piece of plate in appreciation of his services as Governor of these Settlements. The Hon. Thomas Scott was voted into the chair. After some discussion the following resolution was proposed by Mr. R. I. Harper, seconded by Mr. R. Campbell, and carried unanimously:—

That a subscription list be opened for the purpose of procuring a piece of plate for presentation to H.E. Sir Andrew Clarke, and for obtaining his portrait to be placed in the Town Hall, in token of the eminent services rendered by him as Governor of the Straits Settlements during his tenure of office.

The following gentlemen were appointed to act as a Committee to carry out the above resolution:—

The Honourables Dr. Little, T. Scott, and Whampoa; Messrs. R. Campbell, Almeida, Brasier, Brüssel, Suhl, Vaughan, Mulholland, Harper, Baumgarten, Bishop, Henderson, Cachick Moses, Edgar, Kim Ching, Seng Poh, Cheang Hong Lim, Syed Ismail, Syed Mahomed Alsagoff, Rahman Chitty, and Postajee Pestonjee.

Mr. R. I. Harper was appointed honorary secretary and treasurer, and requested to communicate with Penang and Malacca, inviting the co-operation of the residents in those two Settlements.

We are informed that the Official members of the community purpose entertaining at dinner Sir Andrew Clarke previous to his departure, and his Excellency having accepted their invitation, the dinner will come off in the Singapore Club, the use of which has been readily granted by the members.

The following Address has been presented to Sir Andrew Clarke by the Chinese inhabitants of Penang:—

That we the undersigned Chinese inhabitants of Penang being aware of the eve of your Excellency's departure from the shores of the Straits Settlements, probably for ever, to assume a more important office in India, feel anxious to give expression to the feeling which exists among us created by our observation of the manner in which your Excellency has discharged the duties of your high and sublime office of Governor of the said Settlements during the period of your Excellency's Governorship, since November 1873, until now.

The people, who had during your Excellency's Government, appealed and sought redress from your Excellency, were principally, we may say, ourselves, who by our business connections in trade at Perak and Laroot were very frequently compelled to appeal to your Excellency, against the injustice we suffered from the hands of the Native Chiefs of these places, but through the superior, searching, and exhaustive way in which your Excellency has undertaken to restore those territories to tranquillity, they now assume a very probable and propitious aspect of flourishing again with respect to trade. The efforts and achievements of your Excellency's labour in this matter cannot therefore be too highly appreciated by us, as well as that done by your Excellency at Siam and Klang.

Feeling anxious that your Excellency should take away from our shores a token of the real respect, esteem, and good feeling, in which we the undersigned Chinese inhabitants of Penang hold you, among whom you have administered with such remarkable impartiality, independence, and good judgment which has obtained for your decisions the respect and esteem of the public in general, we now present your Excellency with this address, and hope that it may now and again remind your Excellency of our shores, with lively and kind feelings of the time spent by your Excellency as Governor among its people.

We now with regret beg to take leave of your Excellency, with fervent wishes for the prosperity and happiness of your Excellency and your Excellency's family, and we subscribe ourselves at Penang on this eighth day of May, A.D., 1875.

The prisoners found guilty on the lighter counts of the indictment in the great prison murder case have been brought up before the Court, when the Chief Justice passed the following sentences upon them:—Four to be kept to rigorous imprisonment for the term of three years respectively, such sentence to commence at the expiry of their present terms of imprisonment; two to rigorous imprisonment for two years, after the expiry of their previous terms of imprisonment; and five being life prisoners, the Court had no power to inflict further punishment, and they were remitted to prison to undergo their sentences.

A fatal accident, through the careless handling of firearms,

resulting in the death of a European seaman, has occurred on board the Swedish barque *Orienten*, Captain Stoel. This vessel cleared on the 18th May for Bangkok, and had got out nearly as far as Rhio Straits when the accident occurred. The facts, as nearly as we can gather them, are as follows. The cabin of the vessel opens aft, near the wheel, there being a passage-way along the deck on each side of the cabin for the crew to pass along. The second mate had a revolver in his berth, and deeming it unsafe to leave it loaded, he came out of the cabin to fire it off, but instead of going to the ship's side he stood near the door and fired. Just as he pulled the trigger, one of the sailors, on his way to relieve the man at the wheel, emerged from the passage-way beside the house, and received the ball in the corner of his forehead, just beside the temple, and fell mortally wounded. The captain immediately put back to Singapore, and summoned Dr. Keiser to the wounded man. Dr. Keiser brought him ashore to the hospital, where he died shortly afterwards. A coroner's inquest was held. The captain and seamen stated that there had been no ill-feeling between the second officer and the deceased, but that they were on good terms; and the second mate declared he did not even know that the revolver was loaded. The jury returned a verdict of accidental death.

The Supreme Court has been occupied with the case of Mahomed Bhanjee, charged under Penal Code by Chan Ah Seng with cheating, in having, on the 22nd August last, obtained delivery from the prosecutor of twenty-five cases, containing 400 boxes of tea, under fraudulent representations, he promising to pay cash therefor. This case was postponed from last assizes, on the ground that material witnesses for the defence were absent. It was first tried in April, when the jury returned a verdict of guilty by a majority of five against two, which the Chief Justice declined to receive, directing the case to be retried. At the present trial, after hearing the evidence, the jury unanimously returned a verdict of guilty, and the judge concurring, the prisoner was sentenced to twelve months' rigorous imprisonment. This being the last case remaining on the calendar, the jury were dismissed.

The *Government Gazette* notifies that the Hon. C. J. Irving, having returned from leave, assumed office as Acting Colonial Secretary, Straits Settlements, on the 14th May. The Hon. E. A. Irving will continue to act as Auditor-General, and Mr. Arthur Knight will act as Assistant Colonial Secretary. The Hon. H. Plunket, Superintendent of Police, Penang, is appointed Registrar of Births and Deaths, Penang, and Mr. W. E. Maxwell to be Deputy-Registrar of Births and Deaths, Province Wellesley. Mr. R. W. Maxwell is appointed a Superintendent of Police for the Straits Settlements, the object being that he may be detailed by the Inspector-General for duty in any of the three Settlements. Formerly the superintendents were appointed to particular Settlements, whereas under the new system they are appointed merely as superintendents of the police force of the colony, and may be shifted from one Settlement to another without the necessity for a fresh appointment.

We think we do not intrude upon the privacy of private grief if we notice in a few words the death of Charles Brown Waller, Esq., so long and so favourably known here in connection with the direction of our police and the superintendence of the jail under the new regulations. Mr. Waller had many warm friends in the three Settlements, and there are few but must have been surprised to learn of the "strong man" being so swiftly and so relentlessly stricken down by a fell disease, constitutional and hitherto incurable. Able, energetic, and conscientious in the discharge of his official duties; amiable, warm-hearted, and simple-minded in private life, Mr. Waller's death will be mourned by many beyond his own circle and regretted by all.

At about midnight on Thursday, the 6th May, a fire broke out in Laroot, in the village of the Taipengs. An alarm, consisting of three guns in succession, was fired from the flagstaff hill, and Captain Speedy, the Assistant Resident, hastened to the scene of the conflagration with a posse of police, and with their assistance was successful in speedily extinguishing the fire, which, but for his timely assistance and able measures, would soon have gained such headway that the whole village would inevitably have been destroyed.

We understand that negotiations are in progress between the Governments of India and the Straits to establish a money-order system between this colony and India,—a public convenience that would undoubtedly be largely availed of by the natives of India resident here for the remittance of small sums of money.

The five survivors of the boat's crew of the *Euxine*, after spending considerable time in jail here, are to be sent home by the *Nestor*, nominally to be tried there, the Court here having no jurisdiction over them; but in reality, we presume, to have the question of their amenableness to trial settled in England.

A CORRESPONDENT at Shanghai advises us that the visit of Mr. WADE and Admiral RYDER to Hankow will probably be extended to Ichang, to gain some information as to the murder of Mr. MARGARY from the French mission, aries and others.

EXPORT OF TEA AND SILK, SEASON 1874-75.

TO GREAT BRITAIN.

Date.	TEA.				SILK
	From Shanghai and Hankow	From Foochow.	From Amoy.	From Canton, Macao, &c.	Total lbs.
From June 1, 1874, to May 7, 1875	80069796	60729985	939115	20029908	161788804
From June 1, 1873, to May 7, 1874	71935632	51751292	361183	16006637	139139764

TO THE CONTINENT.

From June 1, 1874, to May 7, 1875	...	...	...	...	6357148
Do. do. 1873, to May 7, 1874	...	...	...	...	8338418

TO UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

From June 1, 1874, to May 7, 1875	...	...	...	...	55040787
Do. do. 1873, to May 7, 1874	...	...	...	...	46331098

TO AUSTRALIA.

From June 1, 1874, to May 7, 1875	...	...	...	...	15,281,863
Do. do. 1873, to May 7, 1874	...	...	...	...	14,806,899

TO GREAT BRITAIN.

From	Tea—lbs.	Silk, bales China & Japan.	From	Tea—lbs.	Silk, bales China & Japan.
1843 to 1844	51,023,600	...	1863 to 1864	117,463,586	46,603
1845 to 1846	57,334,200	18,600	1864 to 1865	121,236,470	32,313
1846 to 1847	63,972,000	22,144	1865 to 1866	118,333,042	62,890
1847 to 1848	77,337,800	61,283	1866 to 1867	118,423,290	50,052
1848 to 1849	92,240,300	50,481	1867 to 1868	116,890,430	57,449
1849 to 1850	76,990,255	68,315	1868 to 1869	142,789,804	70,917
1850 to 1851	66,789,792	83,134	1869 to 1870	139,740,193	63,807
1851 to 1852	85,560,452	64,169	1870 to 1871	131,969,850	51,329
1852 to 1853	90,066,100	70,644	1871 to 1872	149,774,395	54,589
1853 to 1854	109,854,040	79,199	1872 to 1873	151,869,262	57,263
1854 to 1855	121,973,580	73,887	1873 to 1874	144,598,620	47,373

* Including the Continent.

EXCHANGES, & c.

[For dates see first page.]

ON LONDON.

At	Bank Bills.	Credits.	Documentary.
Yokohama, 6 m.s.	4s. 2½d.	4s. 2½d.	4s. 3½d. to 4s. 2½d.
Shanghai	5s. 9½d. to 5s. 9½d.	5s. 9½d.	5s. 9½d. to 5s. 9½d.
Canton	...	...	...
Hong Kong	4s. 2½d.	4s. 2½d.	4s. 2½d.
Macao	4s. 2½d.	4s. 2½d.	4s. 2½d.
Singapore	4s. 2½d.	4s. 2½d.	4s. 2½d.
Manila	4s. 1½d. to 4s. 2d.	4s. 2½d. to 4s. 2½d.	4s. 2½d.

MISCELLANEOUS.

	At Shanghai.	At Hong Kong.
Bills on India	Rs. 306½ to 307½	223 to 223½
" Hong Kong	27½ to 27½ dis.	—
Bar silver	Tls. 111.2.5	9½ prem.
Mexican dollars	" 73.1.25	1 prem.

SHARES AT HONG KONG.

Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank, 22 per cent. dis.
 Hong Kong Gas Company, \$75 per share.
 Hong Kong and Whampoa Dock, 6½ per cent. discount.
 China Traders' Insurance Company, \$900 per share.
 Hotel Shares, 57½ per cent. discount.
 Hong Kong and Macao Steamboat Company, 8 premium.
 Hong Kong Fire Insurance Company, \$280 prem.
 Union Insurance Society, \$50 premium.
 China and Japan Marine Insurance Company, Tls. 79 per share.
 China Fire Insurance Company, \$43 premium.
 Victoria Fire Insurance Company, \$55 premium.
 Chinese Insurance Company, \$190 per share.
 Shanghai Steam Navigation Company, Tls. 70 per share.

*. The latest Exchange quotations by telegram are for six m.s. bank bills at Shanghai 5s. 9½d., at Hong Kong 4s. 2½d., at Batavia F.11.90, at Manila 4s. 1½d., at Singapore 4s. 2½d.

SHANGHAI SHARES AND STOCKS.

	Shares.	Paid up.	Latest Qtn.	Last Divid.
Shanghai Dock Company	...	Tls. 500	...	Tls. 220 Tls. 10 p.c.
Shanghai Gas Company	...	100	...	139 ... 5 p.c.
Shanghai S.N. Company	...	100	...	73 ... 3 p.c.
S. Tug and Lighter Company	...	850	...	850 ... 6 p.c.
French Gas Company	...	50	...	50 ... 6 p.c.
Hong K. Fire Insurance Co.	...	\$1,000	...	\$200 ... \$480 \$51 p.sh.
North China Insurance Co.	...	Tls. 1,000	...	Tls. 300 ...
North China Steamer Company	...	100	...	100 ... 7
Union S.N. Company	...	100	...	50 ... 21
Fangtze Ins. Association	...	500	...	500 ... \$555 ... 7½ p.c.
Union Insurance Society	...	\$2,500	...	\$500 ...
China Traders Co. (Limited)	...	5,000	...	1,000 ... \$150 p.sh.
China and Japan Marine Ins. Co.	...	Tls. 500	...	Tls. 100 ... Tls. 80 ... 4 p.c.
Victoria Fire Insurance Co.	...	\$500	...	\$100 ... \$155 ... 6 p.c.
China Fire Insurance Co.	...	500	...	100 ... 142 ... 6 p.c.
Hongkew Wharf Co.	...	Tls. 100	...	Tls. 100 ... Tls. 98 ... 1 p.c.

Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

At SHANGHAI.—From London, June 24, Lord of the Isles (str.), Venetia (str.); from Liverpool, Ajax (str.).
 At HONG KONG.—From London, May 12, Craigforth (str.); from Liverpool, Agamemnon (str.); from Sunderland, 14, Horriang (str.); from Antwerp 11, Sophie; from Liverpool, &c., June 21, Belgic (str.).
 At MANILA.—From San Francisco, May 4, Florida.
 At SAIGON.—From Monte Video, May 3, Marie Felicite.
 At BATAVIA.—From Glasgow, June 21, County of Ayr; from Southampton, Thomas Sorby (str.); 22, from Nieuwe Diep, Prince Hendrik (str.).
 At SINGAPORE.—From Hamburg, May 16, Brema; from London, &c., June, Erl King (str.), Glengyle (str.), Sarpedon (str.), East Lomond.

DEPARTURES.

From SHANGHAI.—For London, May 6, Nestor (str.); June 12, Cutty Sark.
 From HONG KONG.—For London, May 14, Nestor (str.); for San Francisco, 13, Her Majesty.
 From MANILA.—For London, May 4, Belted Will; for Liverpool, 1, Saint Kilda; 4, Monte Rosa; for Cadiz, 2, Loyala; for Santander, April 26, Saleta; for New York, Surprise; 28, W. Woodbury, Sonora; for San Francisco, 27, Two Brothers.
 From SAIGON.—For Valparaiso, April 30, Hindoostan; for Rio Janeiro, May 10, Penseur.
 From BATAVIA.—None.
 From SINGAPORE.—For London, May 18, Eastern Province; 22, Nestor (str.); for Marseilles, Maximos; for New York, 21, Ivalo.

TELEGRAMS FROM THE FAR EAST.

SIR DOUGLAS FORSYTH'S MISSION.

RANGOON, JUNE 21.—The report that the King of Burmah had yielded on all points to the demands of Sir Douglas Forsyth is premature. The negotiations are still pending.

SIMLA, JUNE 22.—An official despatch announces that the King of Burmah has given explanations to Sir Douglas Forsyth respecting the honourable reception accorded by him to the Chinese General Leesetahi. The King has also executed an agreement guaranteeing the independence of Western Karennee. Hostilities with Burmah are now considered improbable. Sir Douglas Forsyth remains in Burmah pending receipt of further instructions from the Indian Government.

RANGOON, JUNE 24.—In addition to the agreement guaranteeing the independence of Western Karennee, the King of Burmah grants permission for the passage of British troops through his dominions at any time.

RANGOON, JUNE 25.—A rebellion is reported to have broken out in Upper Burmah.

RANGOON, JUNE 25.—The King of Burmah's seal has been affixed to the treaty negotiated by Sir Douglas Forsyth, and the British Mission leaves Mandalay to-day.

THE DISTURBANCES AT CHINKIANG.

SHANGHAI, JUNE 22.—Chin Kiang is now quiet. The Chinese authorities have partially satisfied the demands for reparation made by the British and American Consuls in consequence of the late outrage.

INDIA AND BURMAH.

(TIMES' TELEGRAM.)

CALCUTTA, JUNE 22.—The report of the assembling of a large Chinese army at Manwyne has caused great depression in the Money and Stock Markets here.

THE SEIZURE OF THE "CARISBROOKE."

HONG KONG, JUNE 25.—The steamer *Carisbrooke*, which was seized by a Chinese gunboat off the Hainan coast, on suspicion of being engaged in smuggling, is reported to have been released, security being given to the value of the ship and cargo—viz., \$340,000—pending reference to Peking.

RUSSIA AND JAPAN.

ST. PETERSBURG, JUNE 25.—The *Golos* says that advices from Eastern Siberia announce that the cession to Russia of the Japanese portion of the Island of Saghalien in exchange for the Kurile Islands has been accomplished. The Russian Government is stated to have already appointed two commissioners to take possession of the ceded territory.

CHINA MARKET REPORT.

HONG KONG, JUNE 24.—Grey shirtings, 8½ lbs., Dewhurst's Eagle chop, \$2.55; 16-24, water twist, \$108. Cotton, fair medium Bengal, \$13½. Tea, at Canton, easier; at Foochow, active. Exchange on London: six months' bank bills, 4s. 2½d.

The contract for the New South Wales, New Zealand, and San Francisco mail service has been concluded between Sir Daniel Cooper, acting on behalf of the Government of New South Wales, and Mr. Thomas Russell, acting on behalf of the Government of New Zealand, with the Pacific Mail Steamship Company of New York, Messrs. John Elder and Co., of Glasgow, and Mr. Macgregor, M.P. The service is to commence in November next, and is to be for a period of eight years.

Mr. W. Schmidt, late secretary of the China and Japan Marine Insurance Company, Shanghai, notifies that, under instructions from the directors, he has taken over charge from Messrs. Robert Benson and Co., of the company's agency in this City, the offices remaining temporarily at Messrs. Robert Benson and Co.'s, No. 10, King's Arms-yard, Moorgate-street.

THE MAILS.

PRESENT INWARD MAIL.—MARSEILLES, JUNE 22.—The *Messageries Maritimes* steamer *Sindh*, with the inward French mails from China and Japan, arrived here to-day at 4 P.M. She brings 94 passengers and a general cargo, including 170 bales of silk, 25,050 packages of tea, 420 packages of sundries, and specie, value £72,719, for London, which part of her cargo will be forwarded to its destination per Company's steamer *Gange*, due in London on or about the 5th of July.

HEAVY PORTION OF LAST INWARD MAIL.—GIBRALTAR, JUNE 23.—The P. and O. Company's steamer *Thibet*, with the India and China heavy mails, leaves at 4 P.M. for Southampton, where she may be expected on the 28th inst.

HEAVY PORTION OF LAST OUTWARD MAIL.—GIBRALTAR, JUNE 21.—The P. and O. Company's steamer *Pekin* (from Southampton, on the 17th of June), arrived at 8 P.M., and left at midnight for Malta and Port Said.

OUTWARD MAIL OF MAY 14.—SHANGHAI, JUNE 23.—The P. and O. Company's steamer *Venetia*, with the London mails, of the 14th May, has arrived here.

SHIPPING POSTSCRIPT.

ARRIVALS NOT IN THE TABLES.—June 19, at Amsterdam, from Batavia, *Noach III.*; 23, at New York, from Colombo, *Egbert*; 24, at Plymouth, from Colombo, *Europe*; at Falmouth, from Rangoon, *Argonauta*; 25, at Queenstown, from Manila, *Uli*.

DEPARTURES.—June 23, from London, for Rangoon, *Shun Lee*; for Singapore, *Belle of Southesk*; from Cardiff, for Singapore, *Sumatra*; 24, from Liverpool, for China, *Stentor* (str.); from London, for Shanghai, *Quang Se* (str.).

LAD OX.—At Liverpool, for Penang, Singapore, Hong Kong, and Shanghai, *Patroclus* (str.); for Hong Kong, Carrick Castle; for Galle, Liverpool, J. P. Smith; at Glasgow, for Singapore, *Douglas Castle*.

SPOKEN.—J. M. Joshua, from Cardiff, to Galle, May 19, 1 N., 26.40 W.; Zephir, from Macassar, to Rotterdam, June 9, 37 N., 34 W.; Henriette Adriana, from Banjoewanjie, to Rotterdam, June 2, 14 S., 8 W.; D. H. Watjen, from Newcastle to Singapore, June 6, 39 N., 17 W.; France, from Manila to London, June 13, 39 N., 39 W.

CASUALTIES.—Singapore, June 25.—The *Sybele* (str.), from London, for China and Japan, is ashore outside here, cargo being discharged into lighters; no apparent damage.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Passed Gibraltar, June 19, *Madura* (str.), from Batavia, for Nieuwe Diep; 20, *Koning der Nederlanden*, from Nieuwe Diep, for Batavia. Port Said, June 19, arrived, *Conrad*, from Batavia, and left on the 20th for Naples and Nieuwe Diep.

Naval and Military.

The command of the 2nd Battalion 10th Regiment, vacant by the retirement of Colonel Annesley on half-pay, is to be given to Major and Brevet Lieut.-Colonel Joseph P. H. Crowe, V.C., from the 1st Battalion at Singapore. Colonel Crowe joined the army in October 1846, and was awarded the Victoria Cross for distinguished and gallant conduct during the Indian Mutiny. He served with Havelock's column from its first taking the field in 1857, and was wounded at the storming of Lucknow. His Indian services were rewarded with the Brevet of Major, the grant of a year's service for Lucknow, and the medals and clasps for India and Persia.

THE CHINA FLEET.

HONG KONG, May 13.—The *Charybdis* left 10th for Japan. The *Hornet*, Lieut. J. G. Jones, late of the *Charybdis*, in command, left on the 12th for Amoy and Foochow; on arrival at the *Kestrel* will return to Hong Kong. The *Ringdove* went for a cruise on the 11th to examine the *Bokhara* buoy; the Colonial Government having no steamer the services of men-of-war are repeatedly asked for on similar occasions. The *Vigilant*, having on board his Excellency T. F. Wade C.B., the British Minister in China, and Admiral Ryder, Commander-in-Chief on the China station, left Shanghai on the 4th of May for Hankow. Deputy Surgeon-General T. Moorhead, M.D., principal medical officer in China, has two months' leave of absence, and left on the 10th inst. for Shanghai and Japan. The foreign men-of-war in Hong Kong are the American frigate *Hartford*, and the corvette *Said*, and the German frigate *Ariadne*. The American corvette *Yantie* left on the 9th for the north.

The *Elk*, 4, screw gunboat, Commander R. H. Harris, which arrived at Portsmouth from the China station on the 9th inst., was paid off on the 22nd inst. She was commissioned at Hong Kong on the 8th November, 1871, where she remained until the 5th of April, when she was ordered to proceed to Tungao Roads, in order to save the s.s. *Hai Loong*, which was most successfully accomplished, after five days' very trying work. On the 5th of August she left Hong Kong for Amoy, to relieve the *Dwarf*. On this station she remained twelve months, visiting Takow monthly, and occasionally Swatow and Amping. The *Elk* then proceeded to Nagasaki to join the Admiral, and was fortunate enough to be ordered to carry the mails for the squadron to Russian Tartary, visiting the ports and harbours of Possietie, Vladivostock, Wrangel Bay, Olga Bay, and Barracouta harbour, at all of which places the officers and men thoroughly enjoyed themselves shooting and fishing. From this cruise, after calling in at Hakodado, Yokohama, and proceeding through the Inland Sea, she reached Shanghai, and was then ordered to winter at Tientsin. During the long and severe winter at

this place the *Elks* made themselves thoroughly at home, hunting, shooting, and skating being the order of the day, while the evenings were whiled away by theatricals, Christy Minstrels, and general conviviality. It was with deep regret the *Elks* left this place for Shanghai, where they arrived in time to assist in quelling the riots on the 3rd of May, 1874. She then visited Ningpo (where a week was spent) and Amoy on the way to Hong Kong. It was there discovered that her boilers were getting weak. This necessitated her speedy return to the old country. The *Elk* left Hong Kong homeward bound on the 2nd of January, 1875, and after calling at Manila, Labuan, Singapore, Trincomalee, Point de Galle, Aden, Jeddah, Suez, Ismalia, Port Said, Malta, Gibraltar, and Corcubion, arrived at Plymouth on the evening of the 7th June. During the commission she has been most comfortable and healthy, not a single death having occurred, and only two men invalided.

The *Magpie*, double screw gun vessel, Commander Henry Salmon, arrived at Portsmouth on the 22nd inst. from the East India station, via the Suez Canal. She left Bombay on the 30th of April, arrived at Malta on the 24th of May, having been towed through the Red Sea by Her Majesty's ship *Volage*, and left Gibraltar on the 8th inst. Among the places visited by the *Magpie* during her cruise were Bombay, Zanzibar, the Mozambique and the Seychelles, Mahe, the Andaman Islands, Rangoon, Calcutta, and Trincomalee. Her present commander commissioned her on the 14th of March, 1874.

The iron corvette *Volage*, Captain Henry Fairfax, arrived at Spithead on the 17th inst. from Malta. She has been employed on special service in connection with the Kerguelen observations of the transit of Venus. The *Volage* arrived at Malta from Bombay on the 23rd ult., having towed the *Magpie* through the Red Sea to the Gulf of Suez. She left Malta for England on the 29th ult. The astronomers returned to England overland.

The Emperor of Germany has notified his desire to confer upon Captain Fellows, R.N., C.B., Superintendent of Chatham Dockyard, the order of the Red Eagle of Prussia, on account of the hospitality and attention shown by him to German subjects who have visited Chatham yard.

The *Vestal*, in charge of Lieutenant Douglas, late navigating officer of the *Avon*, is now nearly ready for commission at Portsmouth. It is said that Commander Hand, who served as a midshipman throughout the last China war, will be appointed to this vessel.

At a recent meeting of the Royal Humane Society, its vellum testimonial was voted to J. Davies, able seaman, and G. Davies, ordinary seaman, of the *Ringdove*, for gallantly jumping overboard at Shanghai to save life.

The *Pert*, 4, double-screw, composite gun-vessel, will be commissioned on the 1st prox. by Commander Aitchinson, with a complement of seventy-three men, for North America and the West Indies.

Captain Bosanquet, at present on the Torpedo Committee, and who has seen much service in China, has been nominated to the command of the *Diamond*, about to be commissioned at Sheerness.

Captain P. Sharpe, formerly of the *Magicienne* in China, has joined the *Crocodile* at Portsmouth, vice Captain Townsend, late of the *Icarus* in China, whose period of service has expired.

Captain W. Arthur, late of the *Iron Duke*, visited Portsmouth on the 22nd inst., and was present at the torpedo experiments on board the *Shah* at Spithead, on the following day.

A letter appears in *The Times*, dated Yokohama, April 11, from a correspondent on board the *Challenger*, descriptive of the voyage of that vessel from Zamboangan to Yokohama.

The *Vestal*, 11, screw sloop, will be commissioned by Commander Hands in the course of next month for service in the Pacific. Her armament has been materially increased.

Sub-Lieutenants F. S. Ommaney and A. R. M. Cressh (of the *Audacious*, flagship on the China station) have volunteered to return home to qualify in navigation and pilotage.

The Naval Marine Battalion from Japan arrived at St. Vincent, Cape de Verdes, on the 15th inst., all well, in the *Adventure*, which was to leave the day following for England.

Admiral Sir A. L. Kuper, G.C.B., whose last command was the China station, will retire in September next, as he will then have been ten years unemployed.

Deputy-Commissary G. T. Pett (of the Control Department) has been transferred from Woolwich to Ceylon.

Miscellaneous.

THE PRIVATE ARCTIC EXPEDITION.

On the 23rd inst. the screw sloop *Pandora* left the docks at Southampton bound for the Arctic Regions. The *Pandora* is thoroughly equipped for service in the Polar seas. Every rope and bolt is new, while the masts, three in number, have been newly spliced, and the yards shortened and re-sailed. Although she has been strengthened in every part, and although she is so heavily laden that she draws ten and a half feet of water, her whole appearance as she glided out of port suggested symmetry and delicacy of outline. She has been used in times past as a despatch boat, and her smart and tidy build are sufficient criterions to the eye that she did her work rapidly. The usual commander's cabin has been divided for the accommodation of Captain Young and Lieutenant Lillingston. In each cabin is a well-stocked library, and on the walls are photographs and landscapes. Amongst the other articles put on board the yacht were a quantity of scientific instruments and books sent down from London, and an organ which has a somewhat remarkable history. In one of the early Franklin search expeditions this organ, a gift of the late Prince Consort, was first taken away to an

Arctic latitude; since that time it has done duty in four other Arctic expeditions, including the voyage of the *Fox*. A silver plate has now been fixed upon it which tells of its adventures, and its musical properties have been renovated at a large outlay by Captain Young for this expedition. Outside the captain's cabin, the mess room of the *Pandora* is situated, and from the four sides of this chamber are constructed cabins for the members of the scientific staff. The *Pandora* has shipped among other necessities, six strong boats, two whale boats, Snider rifles for seal-hunting, ice condenser, and the now orthodox crow's nest. All round her upper deck are barrels which contain fresh water, and over 100 tons of coals are stored in the bunks. She will carry thirty-two souls, all told, including amongst that number, besides Captain Allen Young, the following officers:—Lieut. Lillingston and Dr. Horner, M.R.C.S.—the latter goes not only as a medical officer, but also as meteorologist; he took a prominent part in the ambulance service of the Franco-German war. Lieut. Pirie, of our navy, and Lieut. Baynam, of the Dutch navy. The last named goes out as a scientific officer, it being intended that botanical and marine research shall form a prominent duty in the mission. This officer won some distinction in the Atchin War. The only other officer is Mr. Toms, who served under Captain Young in the yacht *Fox*. Probably the most remarkable man among the petty officers is "Esquimaux Joe," who sailed with Hall in the *Polaris* expedition; he has been specially brought over from America to act as interpreter on board the *Pandora*.

The *Pandora* is commanded by Lieut. Allen Young, R.N.R., and Lieut. Lillingston, R.N. Mr. Young entered the merchant service in 1846. He commanded the *Marlborough*, East Indianman (1,500 tons), twice round the world in 1853-4, and the *Adelaide*, steam troop-ship, during the Crimean war. He was also sailing-master of the *Fox*, under M'Clintock, from 1857-59. He commenced his travelling work by laying out a depot, between Feb. 15 and March 3, in a gale of wind, and with the thermometer averaging forty to forty-eight below zero. The mercury was frozen all the time. On his return, he started for Fury Beach to get some stores which had been left by Parry, and was absent from March 18 to the 28th. He was attacked with snow blindness. Starting on April 7, he traced the south and west shores of Prince of Wales's Sound. Provisions running short after thirty-eight days, he was compelled to send the men and tent back, but proceeded with one man and the dogs for forty days longer, sleeping each night in a hole in the snow. He attempted to cross the M'Clintock Channel, and went about forty miles from the land, the ice being frightfully heavy. He reached the ship on June 7, after an absence of seventy-eight days. He next went to explore Peel Sound, from June 10 to the 28th. He then connected Osborn's with Browne's furthest, and discovered 350 miles of new coast-line. On Feb. 24, 1862, he became a lieutenant of the Naval Reserve. Lieutenant Young also commanded the *Fox* in the North Atlantic Telegraph Expedition in 1862, proceeding to Faroe Islands, Iceland, and Greenland. He also commanded the *Queetung* gun-boat, belonging to the European Chinese Navy, 1862-4, and was a commissioner to the Maritime Congress at Naples in 1871. He gave his name to Allen Young Point, lying to the extreme south-west of Prince of Wales's Land.

THE STABILITY OF SHIPS OF WAR.

Captain Pim, M.P., has obtained a Parliamentary return which supplies information relating to what certain people would call "unseaworthy ships" of Her Majesty's navy. This paper gives the names of all the ships in the Royal navy built during the last eight years, of 700 tons and upwards, which have had to be ballasted, either to ensure their safety or to regulate their trim. The first four on the list are the *Audacious*, *Invincible*, *Vanguard*, and *Iron Duke*, each having a displacement of 6,034 tons. These ships were designed by Mr. Reed, and it was found necessary, after the foundering of the *Captain*, had shown the insecurity attending double bottoms, to diminish their inclination to turn over by placing 360 tons of iron and cement in the hollow cavities below the flooring. This addition to the weight of the hulls has brought them down 5 inches in draught, and, consequently, the lower gun ports are to that extent so much nearer the water. The next two are the *Swiftsure* and *Triumph*, of 6,600 tons, also designed by Mr. Reed, and these ships have had 360 tons of small pig-iron and cement placed in their double bottoms, with 30 tons immediately before and 10 tons abaft the same. The extra 400 tons has increased their immersion $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches. The *Sultan*, of 9,286 tons displacement, has had 335 tons let in to the double bottoms, besides 100 tons before and 25 tons abaft, which has caused her to draw 12 inches more water; but this ought to be taken in conjunction with 188 tons of extra weight added to her equipment, and not contemplated in the draught as designed by Mr. Reed. The *Raleigh*, 5,190 tons displacement, was slightly altered while building, but this deviation from the original design, coupled with an increase in her equipment equal to 108 tons, and the insertion of 180 tons of scrap iron and cement between the frames in the bilges, has led to her draught being augmented by 16 inches. The *Raleigh* is one of Mr. Reed's ships. The *Laconicant*, 5,782 tons, of the same class, had her immersion increased $7\frac{1}{2}$ inches by 180 tons of pig ballast being placed along her vertical keel. The *Shah*, 6,040 tons, had her equipment increased by 105 tons, and this, together with 90 tons of iron in the hold, increased her draught of water by 11 inches. The *Volage*, of 3,090 tons, turned out to be more buoyant than contemplated; though her equipment was increased by 13 tons, and 70 tons of pig iron were placed in her shaft passage, she drew 9 inches less than estimated. The *Active*, of 3,070 tons, had 50 tons of iron ballast placed in her shaft passage, and her equipment was increased by 13 tons, and yet her draught was decreased by $10\frac{1}{2}$ inches. The *Volage* and *Active* were designed by Mr. Reed, as also the *Thalia*. The latter ship is 2,266 tons, and 80 tons of pig iron in her bilges, without any addition to her weight of equipment, increased her displacement by 5 inches when compared with the estimated draught. Mr. Reed's ship, the *Junio*, had 30 tons of ballast placed under the tanks in the forehold and under the provisions abaft, and the difference in her draught is 2 inches, which for a vessel of 2,216 tons displacement is of no material consequence, except in passing

over bar harbours or shallow places. Seven other ships designed by Mr. Reed—namely, the *Danae*, of 1,755 tons; the *Myrmidon*, of 817 tons; the *Ringdore*, of 774 tons; the *Philomel*, of 774 tons; the *Lupwing*, of 766 tons; the *Bittern*, of 764 tons; and the *Plover*, of 764 tons—have had a few tons of ballast placed on board merely for the purpose of altering their trim; but the changes in the draught of water are only from half an inch to one inch and a half. The last vessel in the table is the *Wye*, which was purchased by the Government in 1873. Her displacement is 1,160 tons, and the Controller's department ordered 120 tons of scrap iron and cement to be placed in her bilges. This amount of ballast would not be required for a merchant steamer carrying heavy cargoes, but as a naval transport it was expedient to keep her in trim.

INTERNATIONAL POSTAL RATES.—Notices have been issued by the Post-office relating to the new international postal tariff. One states that on and after July 1 next foreign stamps of the value of 2½d. and foreign post-cards of the value of 1½d. will be obtainable in any numbers. The other notices announce through rates to certain countries beyond the limits of the union. To China (Peking, Tientsin, and Kalgan) *via* Russia, the rate will be 1½d. per half-ounce for letters and 4d. per 4 oz. for newspapers; *via* the United States it will be 6d. for letters and 2d. for papers. The United States route will also be available to the following places in Central and South America:—Colon, Panama, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, 5d. for letters and 2d. for newspapers; Cuba, 3½d. for letters and 2d. for newspapers; Mexico, 6d. and 1½d.; Guatemala, 7½d. and 2d.; Japan, 10d. and 3d.; Hawaiian Islands, 4d. and 2d. To Tunis there will be two routes—*via* Belgium and Italy, 3½d. for letters and 1d. for newspapers; *via* France, 5d. and 2d. To Morocco the French rates will be 6d. and 2d.; by Southampton, 2½d. and 1d. Registration may be had in all cases, but at a special rate of 8d. to Colon and Panama, and of 9d. to Japan. Between all other parts of Europe—Spain excepted—the United States, and Egypt there will be a uniform rate of 2½d. for half-ounce letters, 1½d. for post cards, and 1d. for newspapers.

In the South Court, South Kensington Museum, may be seen an interesting recent acquisition, being a large Japanese sculpture, in bronze, of a sea-eagle, the work of a celebrated artist of the sixteenth century, by name Myochin Muncharu, of whom it was said that "under Heaven there never was such a smith as Myochin Muncharu." The praise thus conveyed may be a little overdrawn, but the enthusiasm it indicates is accounted for, and almost justified, by the wonderful *don* of this statue of the bird of prey in the act of departing on the wing, as it seems to us, from the verge of a rock; the neck is thrust outwards, the beak slightly opened, as is to emit a scream before descent is begun. The neck feathers are bristling, and this we do not understand, they appear to have become concave, the tips being elevated; the crest is raised; the expanded wings seem to vibrate in every quill; the tail is spread like a fan. The execution is elaborate and careful, but not merely minute—it is marked by something like largeness of style, and a fine feeling for the differing textures and forms of the various kinds of feathers is distinct.

THE LOSS OF THE "WOOSUNG."—An action, "Curlin v. Grant and another," has been tried in the Court of Common Pleas. The plaintiff was a master mariner, who formerly commanded the *Woosung*, a steamer which, on the 21st February last, ran upon a coral reef in the Red Sea and was lost. The vessel had got out of her course in thick weather, and the result of the Board of Trade inquiry was that the plaintiff was suspended for three years. He had contracted to provision the ship on his own account, and the defendants, who were insurance brokers, had effected a policy upon these stores for £1,000. The plaintiff's case was that this policy was not in such a form that he could sue upon it, and he claimed damages in consequence. On the other hand, it was said that the policy was quite in the usual course, and that if any objection had been made to the policy it could have been set right. There were also some other questions raised. The jury, after hearing evidence on both sides, found a verdict for the defendants.

AN official notification has been published in Berlin to the effect that the German Minister at Peking, Herr Von Brandt, is empowered under the laws of 5th of May, 1870, and 5th of February, 1875, to perform the ceremonies of civil marriage, on behalf of German subjects or persons under German protectorate in the territory of his diplomatic jurisdiction. Also to register births, marriages, and deaths of German subjects or German protégés.

CONSULAR APPOINTMENTS.—The Queen has appointed William James Hertslet, Esq., now Her Majesty's Consul at Königsberg, to be Her Majesty's Consul for the Provinces of Prussia (East and West), Posen, and Silesia, to reside at Königsberg; and to approve M. Albert Lefavre as Consul at Quebec for the French Republic; and Mr. John Chambers Kemsley as Consul at Port Elisabeth, Cape of Good Hope, for the Oriental Republic of the Uruguay.

THE NEW BISHOP OF COLOMBO.—The Rev. R. S. Copleston, fellow of St. John's and Keble Colleges, Oxford, who has been appointed to the bishopric of Colombo, cannot be consecrated before January next, inasmuch as until that time he will not have attained the canonical age of thirty. He will be the youngest bishop consecrated since the Reformation.

The Star Bull Line steamship *Thomas Sorby* arrived at Batavia on the 21st inst., having made the passage from Southampton in thirty-eight days. The *John Howard*, steamer, of the same line, will sail from Southampton on the 17th proximo, for Batavia, Samarang, Sourabaya, &c.

THE Rev. G. Ensor is engaged in delivering a series of addresses in the South of England on his experiences while engaged in missionary work in China and Japan.

Parliament.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE MISSION TO THE KING OF BURMAH.

(June 21st.) Mr. RICHARD asked the Under-Secretary of State for India whether Her Majesty's Government would at once communicate to the House any information relative to the complaints, of whatever kind, made by the Government of India against the King of Burmah, together with a copy of the instructions given to Sir Douglas Forsyth, Her Majesty's special envoy to the Burmese Court.

Lord G. HAMILTON said there could be no objection to laying upon the table the correspondence referring to the differences which had occurred as soon as it was complete. Sir Douglas Forsyth had been sent on a mission to Mandalay to endeavour to arrange matters, and nothing could be more likely to frustrate that object than to make his instructions public. Therefore he (Lord G. Hamilton) must decline to lay these papers before the House.

THE OPIUM TRAFFIC.

(25th.) Mr. M. STEWART, in calling attention to the opium traffic between India and China, reviewed the history of the subject for the last hundred years, and contended that it was our duty to take steps to remedy the evils revealed in the evidence given before the East India Finance Committee in 1871. By the Treaty of Tientsin, in 1860, the sale of opium was legalised after the most vigorous protest on the part of the Chinese Emperor. There were two systems in operation in India, and one of them was the Bengal monopoly. Under that the cultivator gave notice of his intention to grow opium, had his land measured, and received advances as the crop reached certain stages. In this way the cultivation was fostered by the Government, and the produce was sold at auction by the Government. This was bad in itself, and bad because though officials might be upright at one time there was no security for their energy and disinterestedness at another time. The monopoly was further bad because our risks, as traders, were not compensated for by our profits. We did not know how much our revenue might be if this monopoly did not exist. At all events an immense amount of capital was locked up in the better part of two years' advances, and on this account probably 2½ millions ought to be deducted from the revenue of six or seven millions which we obtained from opium. Smuggling was encouraged by the monopoly, which did not restrict the traffic. In Burmah we had introduced the drug by first giving shopkeepers a few cakes of it, and then selling it to them at a low rate, until the demand for it would warrant the raising of the price. The result had been that a once healthy people had indulged in opium to such an extent that they were mentally and physically debilitated. The monopoly was also condemned as involving injustice to many planters, and deranging trade, so that it was bad from an economical point of view. It was sometimes said that the Indian Government put into execution the power which they possessed of restricting the monopoly, but the facts refuted this statement. In 1865 the *maximum* which was to limit the Bengal monopoly of exportation was fixed at 45,000 chests; but in 1867, either from shortened revenue or some other cause, the export ran up to 48,000 chests. It would almost appear, therefore, that the export of this fearful drug was not regulated by the laws of supply and demand, but by the necessities of the Indian Government, which frequently caused them to resort to this lucrative trade as a means of producing revenue. He had made inquiry as to the feeling in China in reference to this question, and he believed it to be almost universally in opposition to the trade. The moral effect of the consumption of the drug was fearful, and the better class among the inhabitants would be very glad if the temptation to indulge in its consumption was removed from the inhabitants. Apart altogether from its moral effect upon the people, the growth and consumption of opium was to be deprecated on grounds of public policy. It was true that it yielded a large proportion of the Indian revenue, but it was also true that, while large sums of money had frequently to be paid for the relief of famine in India, a vast quantity of the most fertile land in the country was devoted, not to the production of food, but of opium. As an international question he believed that in case of a war other Powers would interfere to prevent England imposing upon the Chinese nation treaties such as that under which the opium traffic was conducted. We professed goodwill towards men, but, as far as this matter was concerned, we were sowing the wind, leaving our successors to reap the whirlwind. Would the Government like to be great distillers in this country? If not, why should the Government in India be engaged in the cultivation of opium? He hoped his noble friend the Under-Secretary of State had not yet been an official long enough to have his eyes blinded and his ears shut to the strong assertions which he (Mr. M. Stewart) had been compelled to make to-night. He had quoted from some authorities in the course of his speech, and he would now quote the words of another authority:—"Offences must come; but woe to him by whom they come." (Hear, hear.) The hon. gentleman concluded by moving the following resolution:—"That this House is of opinion that the Imperial policy regulating the opium traffic between India and China should be carefully considered by Her Majesty's Government with a view to the gradual withdrawal of the Government of India from the cultivation and manufacture of opium."

Mr. PEASE, in seconding the resolution, said new evidence was laid before the Indian Finance Committee, which he hoped would be brought to bear on this question. This was a question which the Government ought to face. If they refused to face it now, it would stare them in the face still more strongly as years rolled on. The hon. gentleman quoted statistics to show that the cultivation of opium by the Indian Government and the revenue they derived from it had steadily and largely increased. The history of the trade in this drug, he believed, was one of the darkest pages in the trading annals of this country. (Hear.) The hon. gentleman proceeded to trace the Parlia-

mentary history of the question, and cited various documents to show the immorality and fearful results of the opium trade. He urged that the Chinese had always protested against this traffic, and they went to war with this country because we were smuggling opium into China. The Government winked at it, and the Chinese took 20,000 chests of opium and mixed other materials with it, destroying its value. For that England bombarded the towns of this fanatical people, and gave them a lesson in Christianity. We destroyed them because they would not submit to be poisoned. It was not until sixteen years had elapsed that the Chinese admitted the traffic. What would have been the result if we had attempted to treat any European Power in this way? Why, we should have had the nations of Europe probably going to war with us. He then referred to the question of the Indian finances, and he observed that the Indian Government was in exactly the same position as the miserable victims of the drug. As soon as the victim felt the pangs of hunger he had recourse to opium, and as soon as the Indian Government felt the pangs of pecuniary deficiency it cried out for more opium. He believed the cultivation would gradually decrease as the Indian Government showed that they wished to get it off their hands. The hon. gentleman quoted the authority of Sir R. C. Hamilton, Dr. G. Smith, Lord Strathnairn, and others of large Indian experience in support of his views, and expressed a hope that the opinion of those eminent men would have proper weight with the noble lord. Sir Rutherford Alcock had stated that he found the Chinese Government were resolved to drive the Indian drug out of the market and to grow opium for themselves. What should be done then by the Government of India was to abandon the cultivation of the article and to take the largest possible duty from it, as the home Government did in the case of tobacco. He hoped that for the future the Government of India would cease to pursue a policy which pandered to the vices of the Chinese—a policy which the maxims of their heathenism and the principles of our Christianity alike condemned.

Sir G. CAMPBELL said that, as he had had direct official connection with this opium question, it was right he should express his views with regard to it. He entirely admitted the fairness with which the subject had been brought before the House by hon. gentlemen who had preceded him. It seemed to him, however, that the question was a practical one. Large sums were derived by the Government of India from opium, and the question was how to deal with it from a practical point of view. The Indian Government had nothing whatever to do with forcing opium on the Chinese. If forced it was upon them, that Government had totally dissociated themselves from the transaction. Both in the past and at present the matter was one between the British merchants and the Chinese, and the Indian Government had had no part in it. Looking at the matter from an Indian point of view, the question was a more simple one. He had considered the subject a good deal, and it appeared to him that the relative evils of opium and alcohol were very much on a par. Both undoubtedly were very bad; the one was the vice of the West, and the other the vice of the East. It had been said that opium was a cursed thing which we were bound to ignore altogether—that we should disavow ourselves from the traffic in opium and from the opium revenue. He ventured to say that was not a practical view of the matter. How could we shake ourselves free from the opium traffic? Only in one of two ways—either by leaving the cultivation free or by prohibiting it altogether. What would be the result of leaving the cultivation free? It would be consumed more largely than ever, while we should sacrifice our opium revenue. Were we prepared to take that course? When the hon. baronet the member for Carlisle had not only carried his *Permissive Bill*, but when the manufacture and use of alcohol were entirely prohibited, it might then be possible to suggest the prohibition of the cultivation of opium; but it was totally impossible that our Indian revenue should be sacrificed for the benefit of the Chinese. We did not leave the traffic in alcohol free, but we checked it by a very heavy taxation. Opium was one of those things upon which the imposition of a heavy duty enabled us to serve God and mammon at the same time—doing good to our neighbours by checking its consumption and raising a large revenue for ourselves. (Hear, hear.) The question was—in what form should the taxation be imposed on this noxious article of consumption? He should be glad if he could see his way to a simple duty in place of the monopoly system; but he thought the monopoly system worked well, and it was more unseemly than injurious. The Gottenburg system, under which the public authorities regulated the liquor traffic so that as little harm as possible should be done to the community, was precisely analogous to the system followed in Bengal with regard to the opium traffic. The opium revenue was of very great importance to India, and there would be much risk attending changes. We derived a large revenue from opium, and the financial condition of India at the present time was not such as would justify us in running great financial risks for the sake of an idea. (Hear, hear.) So far from being in a flourishing state, our Indian revenue barely sufficed to make both ends meet, and the sudden suppression of the opium traffic would, therefore, be attended with considerable danger. As to the position of the ryots, there was no pressure whatever put upon them to grow opium, and under a different system they would probably fare worse than they did at present. In the same districts as those in which opium was grown the manufacture of indigo was carried on by private speculators, and the ryots engaged in that industry were not by any means free, for they were under a sort of feudalism. If a system of duties were adopted in regard to opium it would probably be necessary to interfere with the opium trade—to lay down strict regulations as to where opium ought to be grown, and to take great precautions against smuggling. Thus the proposed change involved other than purely financial considerations, and it would be most injudicious to take any hasty step in the matter. For himself he was averse to the extension of the present system, and he thought that, as far as circumstances permitted, it ought to be restricted. That was the view which he held formerly as an Indian official, and which he had now to urge as a member of the House of Commons. The Government of India would, he hoped, take the matter into their consideration. The truth was, the greater part of the opium revenue

was derived from those districts in which monopoly was established, and it was necessary in any action which might be taken that great caution should be observed. In the case of Behar and Benares it would, he thought, be better to wait until we had seen the result of a change in other parts of the country, where the revenue to be risked would be very much smaller in amount. If the change proved successful in those quarters then it might be extended, and we might thus ultimately be enabled to get rid of monopoly altogether, although he did not think the time when we could do so had yet arrived.

Mr. RUSSELL GURNEY thought that there was no necessity for warning the House not to proceed with too great haste in the matter, seeing that the result of the action which had been taken with respect to it more than a quarter of a century ago was, that the evils of the trade had increased something like fourfold. (Hear.) It was, he might add, idle to contend that there was no difference between the two modes employed for levying a revenue from opium—one of which was to lay a heavy duty on the export of the article, thereby discouraging the trade; and the other the cultivation of the article by the Government itself. There was all the difference between the two modes that existed—between the nation becoming a distiller and levying a tax on spirits when in the still. As to perfect free trade in opium in India, no one had suggested it. In former debates in that House it had been admitted that great evils sprung from the manufacture of opium and its compulsory exportation to China, on the inhabitants of which country it was forced, according to Mr. Wade, against their conscientious convictions. A very serious responsibility rested on this country in the matter, and it was therefore important that we should, as soon as possible, do all that lay in our power to clear ourselves from the moral guilt in connection with it which ought to attach to us in the eyes of foreign nations. Our rule in India, he imagined, did not depend merely upon physical force; but that moral reputation at which we ought to aim we could not have while we continue to do all we could in opposition to the feelings as well as the interests of the whole Chinese people in reference to a trade the only argument in support of which he had ever heard was that we were deriving from it a large revenue. (Cheers.)

Mr. LAING, having given that question much anxious consideration when he was Finance Minister in India some twelve years ago, wished to address a few observations upon it to the House. Those observations, fortunately, would be short, because much of what he had intended to say had been said already very ably by the hon. member for Kirkcaldy, who, from his former position as Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, spoke with great authority on that subject. He might say generally that he agreed to a very great extent with the remarks and the line of argument of that hon. member, only he felt somewhat more strongly than that hon. member did the impolicy of any attempt to interfere in accordance with English ideas or English sentiments with the practical administration of affairs in India; and he had more confidence than, perhaps, that hon. gentleman had in the good sense of the House and of the English people, when fairly appealed to, not to attempt to import English ideas into the Government of that great Empire, and, above all, into its financial administration. He had great respect for philanthropy which was philanthropy at its own expense, but little for philanthropy which was philanthropy at the expense of others. If they endeavoured, on account of some conscientious scruple, to force measures on the Government of India which would cause a sacrifice of between £6,000,000 and £7,000,000 of revenue they ought to say whether they were prepared to make up for that loss, or for any part of it. How was it proposed to supply the deficit? If the Government of India were to double or even treble the Salt Duty it would not suffice, and he did not suppose any philanthropist would recommend such a step. After repeated attempts to impose it, the income-tax had been withdrawn, to all appearance finally; and as to that tax it had not at the very highest produced more than a fourth of the sum derived from opium. Was it desired that they should unsettle the Land Settlements and break faith with all the cultivators of the soil in order to increase the Land Revenue—which it would be necessary to do to the extent of 25 or 30 per cent. if they wanted to make up the amount of the revenue from opium? Or were they prepared to allow a heavy import duty on Manchester manufactures? They would not by that means get nearly what they sacrificed, but it would be an evidence of sincerity. No one could suppose that such a duty would be tolerated by this country. Some practical substitute must be shown, and it must be a substitute which would not fall upon the vast and poor population for whom we were trustees. For his own part, he had arrived at the conclusion that the case of opium and that of alcohol stood substantially upon the same footing. The same arguments that were used against opium might be used against gin and whisky. As to the prevalent idea that a man who took a small quantity of opium felt compelled to increase the indulgence to an extent utterly ruinous, it was no more true than it would be to say that every Scotchman who drank a glass of whisky became a confirmed drunkard. He had often heard it said that it was common to see the Chinese workman when his dinner hour came sitting down under a tree and taking his meal, and, after it, swallow a minute quantity of opium—just as an English labourer might smoke a pipe—and in ten minutes more get up and resume his work. If a man did a great deal of hard work in the open air a little opium, like a little alcohol, did not seem to have much effect, but no doubt it was a very different case in the stews of great cities, where the indulgence was carried on to a ruinous extent. The truth was that there was much to be said upon both sides. The intoxication caused by opium was less violent in its character than that occasioned by alcohol, and less crime was committed in China and Singapore under the influence of the former than there was in this country under the influence of the latter. It was very easy, of course, to get up evidence as to the frightful effects of opium, but such evidence could not always be implicitly relied on. At Singapore, while the Chinese took their opium, the Europeans drank arrack, and the native population took tobacco and betel nut. It was

found that the Chinese were worth three of the natives, and therefore it could not be said that the human frame deteriorated under the influence of the nervous stimulant which they so freely used. Under the circumstances were we in a fit of virtuous indignation to destroy so productive an Indian industry for the sake of moral considerations while we continued to raise the greater part of our own revenue from alcohol? It would be most unjust if we were to be thus cheaply virtuous at the expense of 200 millions of the poor toiling wretched ryots of India, for whom we were the trustees, and whom we ought to endeavour to raise in the scale of comfort and of civilisation. As to the mode of collecting the revenues, he disapproved altogether of the proposal to abolish the Government monopoly on opium, and to raise a revenue from the drug by means of an export duty. Such a course would lead to the ruin of the trade by occasioning vast fluctuations in the price of the drug and by encouraging Chinese competition, and would give rise to a large amount of smuggling. The revenue which we derived from opium was not a precarious one, but was a continually increasing one, being based on the growing demands of a large portion of the human race. He regarded the great danger to our Indian Empire as being not Russian aggression, nor Indian disaffection, nor another Mutiny; it would arise from the wish to govern India from home in accordance with Indian ideas and English sentiments. (Hear, hear.) As far as he knew, every time that English public opinion had been so brought to bear as to interfere with the action of those who were responsible in India for the government of India the result had been disastrous. He asked the House to beware how they did anything of that sort in the matter of Indian finance. His experience showed him that, however much to be applauded were the motives of hon. gentlemen who brought forward motions like the present, in nine cases out of ten they did harm rather than good. Let the best men be selected for the government of India, then let the responsibility rest on them, and they would find those gentlemen infinitely more likely to be right than the hon. members here at home could possibly be. (Hear, hear.)

Sir J. KENNAWAY said the House ought to accept with all respect the caution given it by the right hon. gentleman who had just spoken, experienced as he was in the affairs of India. At the same time he asked himself whether the right hon. gentleman had not gone too far in deprecating any interference in the affairs of India on the part of the House of Commons. The policy recommended would be a retrograde policy from that which was adopted when England took the responsibility of governing India out of the hands of the East India Company. He quite admitted that the present was a great financial question, and that the loss of revenue would be a very serious matter. The objection made was not to the raising of a revenue from opium, but to the mode in which it was raised, the Government undertaking all the functions of trader and speculator, and encouraging the growth of what was admitted to be a noxious drug, when money was not abundant. (Hear, hear.) With regard to the Chinese, an unjust distinction, was he thought, drawn between the responsibility of the Government of India and of the Imperial Government. That responsibility was one, and could not be divided. The Chinese regarded England as responsible for opium coming into their country, and they were now in a position to demand a revision of the Treaty of 1860, and if necessary to close their ports. What was asked of the Government of India was that they should gradually withdraw from the production of opium, and limit their experiment to the raising of revenue by a licence, and surely that experiment could be tried in one portion of the country. (Hear, hear.) The House had now before it a moderate proposal which, as it did not ask for the entire abrogation of the duty, was not open to the charge of rashness in sacrificing a large revenue, but which asked the Government to proceed tentatively to redress a moral wrong. He thought that, under the circumstances, the House would do well to support the motion.

Sir G. BALFOUR, having been employed in the first China war, and having gained some information when in that country upon the opium trade, felt much confidence in saying that the Chinese had never shown a real and sincere wish to prevent opium from being conveyed into that country. He happened to be present when an offer was made by the two Chinese Commissioners to Sir Henry Pottinger that if the British Government would agree to pay the sum of \$3,000,000 we might introduce into China any quantity of opium that we liked. He recommended Sir H. Pottinger to avail himself of that offer, because he foresaw the difficulty which would be caused by the opium traffic. [An Hon. Member: When was that offer made?] It was made in July, 1843, and the papers had been laid before Parliament. He (Sir G. Balfour) afterwards sailed for the North of China and the port of Shanghai. He selected it because, being a central part of the empire, he was confident that a vast commerce would spring up with that part of China. The opium traffic was, as he had anticipated, the cause of trouble, because it was carried on at the mouth of the river that led up to Shanghai. He thought the opium trade objectionable on many accounts, but he had a duty to perform as an official of the Government, and he seized three vessels for contravening, as he thought, the laws of China. A very proper censure was, however, conveyed to him by Her Majesty's Plenipotentiary. Sir H. Pottinger was succeeded by Sir J. Davis, who in one of his despatches stated that Captain Balfour, at Shanghai, reported that the local Government had no desire to receive information as to the evasions carried on in the opium traffic. During the negotiations at Nankin Sir H. Pottinger had frequent communications with high Chinese authorities, and it was undeniable that the Chinese officers were very indifferent indeed with regard to the opium traffic. Having served in China, he should never have thought of carrying on a war with China on account of opium. Commissioner Lin opened the crusade against opium; yet the cause of the war was not opium, but the forcible seizure of our merchants who had a right to live in Canton, and to carry on their trade there. There was at present a member of the House whose firm was obliged to give up a stock of opium at Canton which had not been brought from Calcutta or purchased from the Government of India. No more injudicious act than

that forcible seizure of opium could have been committed by Lin, because the opium trade, which had up to that time been confined to the mouth of the Canton River, afterwards spread over all the rivers in China. After all, less evils were caused from the consumption of opium than from the use of ardent spirits. Our 80,000 chests of opium sent into China were quite insufficient to bring about the serious consequences with which the opium trade was charged. Mr. Wade and Sir R. Alcock had both borne testimony in the strongest terms to the laxity of the Chinese authorities in resorting to the measures necessary to carry out their assumed hostility to the opium traffic. As to the cultivation of opium by the Chinese themselves, he did not believe it. The same thing used to be said when he was in China, but the cultivation of opium had been very little extended since that time, and no country in the world could produce opium to compare with that of Malwa, Benares, and Patna. Having served in India, he knew that several Ministers had endeavoured to grapple with the question, but none of them had had either the skill or the courage to try an experiment with the revenues of the country. The question was purely one of finance, and he could not see the possibility of raising by other means the amount that was derived from the manufacture and export of opium. He thought, on the whole, that the best course would be not to press the motion now before the House, but to leave the matter for the present in the hands of the Secretary of State for India, who might, in the course of a year, as the result of continued investigation and thought, hit upon a plan which would solve the difficulty.

Mr. NOEL agreed with the right hon. gentleman the member for Wick that it would not be possible to govern India by English ideas, but it was new to him to be told that England was not to deal with the people of India on a moral basis. It was said that the opium question was not to be dealt with because the people of India were not to be called upon to pay for the whims of England. He agreed with this, but he would remind the House that it was an English whim in the interest of an English company which first called upon India to raise a revenue by the growth and export of opium. The question how the revenue of India could be raised if the cultivation of opium by the Indian Government were stopped was the great difficulty; but the House ought to stimulate the Government to see if they could not grapple with that difficulty by finding means to raise the Indian revenue without encouraging the traffic in opium. It was known that Sir William Muir was anxious to have the cultivation of opium by the Indian Government stopped, and that he believed he would be able to discover means of meeting any deficiency in the Indian revenue which would be occasioned by that course; but it was not likely that he would undertake the task unless he was supported by a strong expression of enlightened opinion at home. It was therefore the duty of the House to pass a resolution which would encourage Sir William Muir in the good work which he was desirous of undertaking. If the Government would show a desire to put an end to the Government monopoly our relations with China would be improved—(hear).

Mr. BEACH said he wished to make a few remarks on this subject, as he had been a member of the Indian Finance Committee. His wish was that an end be put to this immoral traffic in opium, but he feared there were difficulties connected with the question which must necessarily exist. As an independent member of the Committee he studied the subject with the most profound attention. As to the Chinese we were not responsible for their tastes. He feared they had had for many generations a pernicious taste for opium, as in this country some people were given to alcoholic liquors. The opium grown in India had a flavour which the Chinese liked better than that of the opium grown in China, and the anxiety of the Chinese Government to stop the importation of Indian opium was owing to their wish to promote not the morality of the Chinese people, but the growth of Chinese opium. From the evidence given before the committee it was abundantly plain that while the one system was adapted for the western part of India, the other system was best adapted for the east. He feared it would be extremely difficult to change the monopoly system into an export duty system, but still the subject was well worth inquiring into, and if the authorities could be induced to alter the system, such a course would be of the greatest public benefit. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. M'LAREN intended to vote for the motion, and remarked that the speech of the hon. member for Kircaldy was one of the most out-and-out defences of the opium trade he had ever heard delivered. We committed a great moral wrong in forcing the last Treaty on China, and the remedy was to abrogate it at once. (Hear.)

Lord G. HAMILTON did not think the hon. member who had just spoken was aware what would be the result of abrogating the Treaty. Sir Rutherford Alcock had expressed a very decided opinion that if the Chinese were left unfettered by the Treaty they would at once expel all the Protestant missionaries from the country. The hon. member surely was not anxious to bring about such a result as that? (Hear, hear.) There had been this evening a most interesting discussion on the whole question of the opium revenue and trade of India. His hon. friend who introduced the motion suggested that certain alterations should be made, and that the system of excise and export duty now in force in Bombay should be tried in Bengal in place of the monopoly system at present existing there. His hon. friend seemed, however, to argue against any revenue whatever being derived from opium.

Mr. STEWART explained that he did not argue against prohibition at all, but wished to do away with the Bengal system and to substitute for it the system which was in vogue in Bombay.

Lord G. HAMILTON said it certainly seemed to him that his hon. friend's words implied direct condemnation of any revenue being derived from opium. (Hear, hear.) One fact must have struck hon. gentlemen who had listened to the discussion as being very remarkable. There had, indeed, been a complete conflict of opinion between hon. members, but every speaker who had had any official experience of India pointed out the danger, if not the impossibility, of abandoning the revenue; whereas the gentleman who had advocated the abolition or alteration of the revenue, and who were doubtless actuated by the best of motives, looked at the question merely from a philanthropic point of

view. (Hear, hear.) Two fallacies underlay the statements of both his hon. friends who had brought forward this motion. They appeared entirely to forget that there was no nation in the world which did not in some shape or other take stimulants. (Hear, hear.) Besides, they forgot that in a large portion of Asia—not only in China, but also in Assam and Burmah—the stimulant taken by the natives was opium. We drank beer, the Irish and Scotch took whisky, Americans chewed tobacco, and Chinese smoked opium. The latter took opium because it was the form of stimulant best adapted to the climate in which they lived. Sir Rutherford Alcock pointed out that there were certain medicinal properties in opium which made it sought for by the inhabitants of marshy and malarious districts, and hon. members who lived in our own Fens must be aware that there was a large consumption of opium and laudanum in that part of England. Such being the case, it was not fair to put upon the Indian Government the responsibility for the immoderate use of opium by the Chinese. It had been assumed that it was entirely owing to the action of the Indian Government that the Chinese smoked opium. Why was the smuggling of opium carried on? Because the people wanted it. Was it likely that it would be grown in India and that merchants would take to smuggling unless there was a strong disposition on the part of the country to which it was sent to consume opium? Mr. Cooper and Sir Rutherford Alcock pointed out that the habit of opium smoking had existed in China for centuries. It was perfectly true that in Eastern China the opium chiefly used there came from India; but Mr. Cooper stated that he had travelled all over Western China, and found that the people there cultivated opium more extensively than in the other parts of China. If he might venture to suggest it to his hon. friends who differed from him, he could not help thinking that they accepted too readily the instances of persons who made an immoderate use of opium and drew from it a general deduction that every one who indulged in it was completely demoralised, physically and morally. There was very remarkable evidence bearing on this point. There could be no question that the Chinaman who smokes moderately can do an amount of work which no native of any other country could perform. There was a very remarkable report which had come home quite recently from a Consul in China whose territory was in the western part of the Empire, and who once held opinions similar to those expressed that evening. This gentleman believed that the use of opium was entirely demoralising to the individual who was addicted to it, and he gave his experience, which was extensive, and which induced him to alter his opinion. During his journeys he came into the closest relations with men who smoked. Their work was of the hardest and rudest—and the attention of the hon. member for Carlisle was called to this—they had constantly to strip and plunge into the stream in all seasons. The quantity of food they ate was simply prodigious, and the two most addicted to the habit of smoking were the pilot and the ship's cook. On the steadiness of nerve of the former the safety of the junk depended, and yet they seemed to be almost independent of sleep or rest. The Consul added that he did not believe that the smoking of this native drug did any harm; his opinion with regard to it had been much modified, and he was bound to admit that it could be smoked without injury. This was testimony of undoubted reliability, and the result arrived at was the same as the decision previously arrived at by other persons.

Mr. Cooper, in his evidence, said that the habit of smoking was very prevalent among the Chinese. He said that if you suddenly cut off the supply of opium one-third of the whole nation would die; and he added that so long as it was moderately supplied, so long as it was used in moderation, it was not detrimental to health, and that the people were able to perform an enormous quantity of work. He might quote another important authority, who declared that the Chinese would have opium, that if the Indian Government prohibited its growth no good would be done, and that the Indian Government conferred a great benefit on that part of China to which they imported opium. One of the great evils of China was over-population, and if the opium was not imported, the Chinese would cultivate it in place of cereals and other food. He was aware that opium-smoking was prohibited in China under pain of death. Who was the individual who passed that law? He was the Sir Wilfrid Lawson of China. (Laughter.) He was a man determined to put down opium and all stimulants, and seeing a man one day smoking he instantly ordered his head to be cut off. (Laughter.) This law was a dead letter, and no one attempted to enforce it. (Hear.) He hoped his hon. friend (Sir Wilfrid Lawson) would draw some little deduction from this excessive prohibition, for he had little doubt if his hon. friend was successful in enforcing his principles his descendants would find that the law would be disregarded. (Hear.) Two different lines of argument were adopted on this question. They were told on the one hand that the source of revenue was precarious, inasmuch as the cultivation of opium was extending in China; and, on the other hand, they were told they must prohibit the importation of opium into China because it was owing to the Indian opium that the Chinese people were perishing. He quoted the statements of sixteen missionaries from Hong Kong who, while clearly showing that the demand, consumption, and native cultivation of opium were increasing, made the remarkable declaration that there was an opportunity for Great Britain to check the ruinous habit by stopping the supply. He believed that whether they stopped the importation of opium into China or not the Chinese would have opium, and therefore it was not fair or accurate to place on the head of the Indian Government all the evils which ensue from the immoderate use of opium. (Hear.) As to the suggestion of the hon. member for Wigtownshire that they should abandon the Bengal and adopt the Bombay system, he confessed he did not see if it was not wrong to derive any revenue from opium, why it was wrong to get it by excise or import duties. His hon. friend the member for Kircaldy considered this a proposal for sacrificing a considerable portion of the revenue for an idea. (Hear.)

He quite understood that there might be certain hon. gentlemen who considered it wrong of the Indian Government to associate themselves in any way with the cultivation or manufacture of opium, but if he could show that every one of the evils which the hon. member depre-

cated under the present system would be increased tenfold by the proposal the hon. member made that the amount of opium that would be imported must be doubled or even more largely increased, he thought it would be admitted that the suggestion made would in no way check that which the hon. member deplored. In Assam the people were allowed to cultivate opium, and the result was the whole population became demoralised. (Hear, hear.) That was because there was no restriction, no regulation, no control exercised, and women and children were in the habit of sucking rags saturated with the drug. But in India the persons now engaged in the cultivation of opium were the healthiest and sturdiest of the population. Therefore, the first way in which his hon. friend would improve the condition of the people of India would result in their demoralisation. Then as to the next point. In the Finance and Revenue Accounts of India we had in one page the net revenue derived from the system in Bengal and the system in Bombay, and in the next the total number of chests raised each year in both those Provinces. From these accounts there was this remarkable fact apparent—that though the number of chests annually sent from Bombay very frequently exceeded the number sold in Bengal, yet in only one single instance was the revenue from Bombay in excess of the revenue from Bengal. But there could be no question, if the proposal of his hon. friend were adopted, that one-third of the net revenue derived from opium in Bengal would be lost.

In 1872-3 the output of opium in Bengal was some 42,500 chests, and the net revenue £4,259,000. The output in Bombay was 44,000 chests, or some 1,500 in excess of that of Bengal, and yet the revenue was £1,200,000 less than in Bengal. (Hear, hear.) Therefore the first result of the proposal of his hon. friend would be a very large loss to the revenue, which should be made up by increased production. Accordingly a very much larger quantity should be carried into China or there would be a large loss to the revenue. Then there was another point. We found it necessary to state in Calcutta each year the quantity of opium to be sown in the next year, and thus a degree of certainty was introduced into the trade. Bombay was dependent on the Bengal trade, and if we rendered the output uncertain it would be impossible to depend with any accuracy on the supply from Bombay. It would fluctuate, as had been already pointed out, by millions from year to year, and therefore it would be impossible to adjust the balance between income and annual expenditure. But every financier of eminence had laid it down that if you wished to adjust your expenditure to your income you must know with some degree of certainty what your income is likely to be. (Hear, hear.) There were, therefore, four objections to the proposal of his hon. friend. The first was that it would demoralise the people, the second that it would cause the loss of a large amount of revenue from Bengal, the third that we should introduce an element of uncertainty into the income, and the fourth that we should never be able to adjust our expenditure to our income. He quite admitted that if the Government of India could raise their revenue otherwise it would be better not to raise so much from opium. But we were a practical people, and must adopt practical methods. (Hear, hear.) The right hon. gentleman (Mr. Laing) had said that we should not attempt to govern India from the House of Commons by abstract resolutions. He agreed with that opinion. It had been said that Sir W. Muir was most anxious to surrender this revenue, but he could not do it. Why? Because he was the Finance Minister of India. (Hear, hear.) It was urged that he would be supported by the enlightened opinion of the House of Commons. But the enlightened opinion of the House of Commons would not furnish him with resources nor relieve him of his responsibility as Finance Minister. (Hear, hear.) It might be wrong to smoke opium, but why was it proposed to enter upon a course of policy which would increase the burden of taxation upon those who did not smoke opium? (Hear, hear.) No doubt, the expenditure of the Government of India had increased very much during the last ten or fifteen years. His experience was of course limited, but he felt bound to say he did not see any prospect of materially reducing that expenditure. We had to maintain a large European army in India, the whole strength of our administration there was European, and the cost of importing Englishmen for our administration and our Army was annually increasing. But if this opium revenue should be abolished, we must do one of two things—either largely reduce our expenditure or impose additional taxation on the people of India. Which alternative would his hon. friend accept? If we largely reduced the expenditure, we must put a stop to measures which were largely adding to the moral and material prosperity of the country. One of the pleas for our remaining in India was that we were giving the people a better government than they ever had before. But if you reduced the revenue you at once cut away from yourselves the power of doing much for the amelioration of the condition of the people. (Hear, hear.) He admitted, however, that when so large a portion of the revenue depended upon the habits of a foreign nation, a revolution might occur in their habits which might make it difficult to realise that revenue hereafter. He therefore quite agreed with the line of argument of his hon. friend the member for Kirkcaldy, who had pointed out that the system on which opium was manufactured should not be extended because the revenue was to a great extent precarious. At the same time he hoped he had given the House sufficient practical reasons for refusing to sanction the motion of his hon. friend. (Hear, hear.) His hon. friend had come forward as the representative of the Society for the Suppression of the Opium Trade.

If the motion of his hon. friend were adopted, what would be the result? The revenue would be greatly diminished, and in three or four years he might come down again and ask, as it was now so low, what was the use of retaining it at all. If the House adopted the proposal of his hon. friend, it would be possible for him to take that line of argument. He therefore felt bound to offer his decided opposition to the motion. (Hear, hear.)

The House divided. The numbers were—

For the resolution	...	...	...	...	57
Against	...	...	...	...	94
Majority against	...	...	...	...	—37

CARGOES AFLOAT.

SINGAPORE AND PENANG.

Charles H. Southard : 555 tons gambier, 7 tons tin, 175 tons sago flour, 405 tons black pepper, 580 cwts. rattans, 900 cwts. hides, 11 tons india-rubber, 185 tons sugar, 40 m. Malacca canes, 1,340 cwts. copal. Star of the South : 332 tons gambier, 150 tons sago flour, 25 tons pearl sago, 300 tons black pepper, 50 tons white pepper, 25 tons gutta, 260 cwts. rattans, 10 tons india-rubber; 10 tons horns, 25 m. Malacca canes, 27 tons tapioca. Zenobia : 200 tons gambier, 200 tons sago flour, 35 tons pearl sago, 450 tons black pepper, 135 tons white pepper, 4 tons gutta, 2 tons coffee, 260 cwts. rattans, 550 cwts. hides, 5 tons india-rubber, 3 tons horns, 35 m. Malacca canes, 75 tons tapioca. Professor Van der Boon Mesch : 303 tons gambier, 220 tons sago flour, 150 tons pearl sago, 150 tons black pepper, 60 tons white pepper, 340 cwts. rattans, 295 cwts. hides, 6 tons horns, 20 m. Malacca canes, 8 cwts. mother-o'-pearls, 10 tons tapioca. Phineas Pendleton : 850 tons gambier, 760 tons sago flour, 40 tons pearl sago, 30 tons black pepper, 15 tons white pepper, 10 tons sapanwood, 1,240 cwts. rattans, 53 cwts. hides, 35 tons tapioca. Coldingham : 25 tons tin, 793 tons black pepper, 180 cwts. rattans, 1,161 cwts. hides, 420 tons sugar, 18 tons horns. Vanguard : 70 tons gambier, 76 tons tin, 294 tons sago flour, 48 tons pearl sago, 312 tons black pepper, 73 tons white pepper, 16 tons coffee, 460 cwts. rattans, 195 tons sugar, 32 tons india-rubber, 55 tons tapioca. Constantia : 395 tons gambier, 150 tons pearl sago, 140 tons black pepper, 160 cwts. rattans, 223 cwts. hides. Condor : 150 tons gambier, 210 tons pearl sago, 100 tons black pepper, 240 cwts. rattans, 10 m. Malacca canes. Glenavon : 150 tons gambier, 10 tons tin, 455 tons sago flour, 85 tons pearl sago, 265 tons black pepper, 80 tons white pepper, 11 tons gutta, 500 cwts. rattans, 980 cwts. hides, 17 tons india-rubber, 4 tons horns, 63 m. Malacca canes, 80 tons tapioca. Caldew : 130 tons gambier, 115 tons sago flour, 10 tons pearl sago, 120 tons black pepper, 140 tons white pepper, 5 tons gutta, 60 cwts. rattans, 222 cwts. hides, 6 tons india-rubber, 10 tons horns, 21 m. Malacca canes, 27 tons tapioca. Ben Nevis : 30 tons tin, 207 tons black pepper, 6 tons white pepper, 160 cwts. rattans, 113 tons sugar, 2 tons horns. Proserpius : 100 tons gambier, 160 tons sago flour, 150 tons pearl sago, 24 tons black pepper, 240 cwts. rattans, 559 cwts. hides. Dewsbury : 100 tons gambier, 345 tons sago flour, 17 tons pearl sago, 3 tons white pepper, 180 cwts. rattans, 363 cwts. hides, 22 tons tapioca. Windermere : 185 tons gambier, 50 tons sago flour, 275 tons pearl sago, 95 tons black pepper, 2 tons white pepper, 6 tons gutta, 240 cwts. rattans, 120 cwts. hides, 23 tons india-rubber, 70 cwts. damar, 17 tons tapioca. Pauline : 20 tons tin, 245 tons black pepper, 10 tons white pepper, 57 cwts. nutmegs and mace, 380 cwts. rattans, 263 cwts. hides, 295 tons sugar, 55 tons tapioca.

MANILA.

Glamorganshire : 796 tons sugar, 320 tons hemp. Agnes Muir : 442 tons sugar, 14 tons coffee, 550 tons hemp, 30 tons sapanwood, 305 cwts. mastic, 27 mil. cigars. Uli : 175 tons sugar, 277 tons hemp. Mikado : 405 tons sugar, 7 tons sapanwood. Canaan : 500 tons sugar, 445 tons hemp, 30 tons sapanwood, 1,140 cwts. mastic, 140 mil. cigars. Star of the West : 1,000 tons sugar, 480 tons hemp. Monte Rosa : 25 tons sapanwood. Envoy : 750 tons sugar, 43 tons hemp, 12 tons sapanwood. France : 500 tons sugar, 262 tons hemp. Lyra : 406 tons sugar, 140 tons hemp, 6 tons sapanwood, 10 cwts. mother-o'-pearls. Estrella : 570 tons sugar, 230 tons hemp, 12 tons sapanwood. Invincible : 500 tons sugar, 306 tons hemp, 12 tons sapanwood, 250 mil. cigars. Araby Maid : 1,190 tons sugar. Angostura : 547 tons coffee. Penrith : 800 tons sugar.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

ANTON—On the 13th May, at Hong Kong, the wife of J. Ross Anton, of a daughter.
HAY—On the 24th June, at Ventnor, the wife of C. S. Hay, D.Q.A., Ceylon, of a son.
SCOTT—On the 28th April, at Swatow, China, the wife of Dr. C. M. Scott, of a daughter.
TABOR—On the 19th June, at Holmesdale, Forest-hill, Kent, the wife of Arthur Tabor, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

BURKILL-ANDERSON.—On the 31st June, at Walton-on-the-Hill, near Liverpool, by the Rev. H. C. P. Steadman, Charles Edward Burkill to Harriette Catharine, third daughter of the late Thomas Anderson, of Swinethwaite Hall, Yorkshire.
HAWES-NELSON.—On the 6th May, at Shanghai, by the Rev. G. D. B. Miller, Captain C. P. Hawes, of Shanghai, to Nellie A. Nelson, of New York, U.S.
OTTAWAY-FINCH.—At Holy Trinity Church, Shanghai, by the Rev. Canon Butcher, E. F. Ottaway, of the I. M. Customs, to Miss E. D. Finch, youngest daughter of the late Thomas Finch, of Dutton, Surrey.

DEATHS.

CAMPBELL—On the 18th June, at Kildalloig, Sir Louis Henry Dugald Campbell, of Auchenbreck and Kildalloig, aged 81.
LOOS—On the 11th June, at his residence, 55, Torrington-avenue, Camden-road, London, N.W., after a short and severe illness, Walter Henry Loos, aged 25 years, only son of James Loos, M.D., M.R.C.P.E., Principal of the Medical College, Colombo, Ceylon.
NORONHA—On the 10th May, at Yokohama, Diocleciano L. Noronha, aged 30 years.
SOUSA—On the 14th May, at Singapore, Theodor, the wife of Felicio de Souza, aged 29 years.
STEAINS—On the 22nd June, at Berkeley House, Nightingale-lane, Clapham-common, after a short illness, Mary, the dearly-loved wife of Arthur Steains, jun.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS, CORRESPONDENTS, &c.

No notice can be taken of Anonymous Correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion must be accompanied by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

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The "LONDON AND CHINA TELEGRAPH" is published Weekly on the arrival of the English and French mails. Subscription, £2 2s. per annum.

JAMES WEST, PUBLISHER,

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The London & China Telegraph.

LONDON: MONDAY, JUNE 28, 1875.

THE FRAUDS IN CHINA AND JAPAN.

THERE is nothing more painful than the cases of fraud and embezzlement which so frequently take place in China and Japan. The two mails last in bring intelligence of serious crimes of this nature from those countries; and in both instances we have examples of the worst feature connected with these affairs, namely, their occurrence not among people for whom any excuse in the way of defective education or lack of social restraint could be pleaded, but among those having the education and occupying the position of gentlemen. By the last mail but one we learnt that Messrs. CANTULI and SWABY, employés in the Comptoir d'Escompte at Yokohama, had robbed the bank, made off in a small schooner, and had, upon being overtaken, shot themselves. This was startling enough, but scarcely had people got over the shock than they heard by the next mail that a Mr. A. F. CHAMBERS, an old and, up to the time, respected resident in China, had been arrested on a charge of embezzling \$60,000 belonging to his employers, Messrs. JARDINE, MATHESON and Co. In the latter case we are informed the accused has pleaded guilty, and there is, therefore, no reason to refrain from noticing the affair. We shall, however, reserve detailed comments upon it until we are in possession of a full report of the proceedings; but in the meantime cannot refrain from deprecating the lax state of morality which these occurrences indicate. How is it, it may be fairly asked, that, in proportion to the size of the foreign communities in China, these swindles are of such frequent occurrence? Anyone conversant with what has taken place in China during the last ten or twelve years could point to half-a-dozen similar cases; and where we find the like results constantly recurring we are justified in looking for a common cause for them. The circumstances which conduce to these lamentable affairs may be briefly summed up, and are familiar enough to residents in China, although they obstinately refuse to see the truth.

In the first place, a great deal too much confidence is placed in untried men. Men of whose moral character their employers know really very little are repeatedly placed in positions of trust, such as would be given only to those in whose integrity there could be no possible doubt in any other place. In the next place, an insufficient check is ordinarily exercised over the servants in mercantile establishments. At home there are always certain safeguards in the form of rules as to when money should be paid into bankers and the like, which make it almost a matter of impossibility for any person to perpetrate a swindle or an embezzlement beyond a certain sum, and extremely difficult to do it even up to that limit. In China, a species of spurious gentility stands in the way of instituting any check upon the doings of men such as Messrs. CANTULI and SWABY—who, if they are defective in an accurate knowledge of the difference between *meum* and *tuum*, sufficiently prefer death to dishonour, to shoot themselves when they are caught—or of men who may for years cut a dash upon stolen funds. Then there is a third cause which most potently leads to lax morality in these matters in China. It is the spurious sympathy which is always evoked for offenders who have been known to the small communities and have kept up something like a good

social position. This feeling is natural, we will admit, but it is in the highest degree weak. Against the wretched coolie who has stolen fifty or a hundred dollars indignation knows no bounds; but a sympathy is felt for the gentlemanly swindler, whom we have met at dinner, on the race-course, and at other social gatherings—and upon this good-natured but weak toleration these men greatly rely. But a sound judgment would assuredly see that the occupation of a good position, so far from diminishing the moral guilt, greatly enhances it, and that such men, so far from deserving more sympathy, deserve less. We would extend pity to all who have been guilty of moral failings, and would not regard without some compassion even the poor wretched pilferers and thieves who so often figure in the criminal docks. But the safety of society demands that the penalty for crime shall be not only the punishment which the law inflicts, but the forfeiture of the esteem of all who are worthy to be considered respectable members of society; and there is no doubt that this principle is not sufficiently recognised in China.

In saying this we would not be understood to advocate the cowardly hounding even of the criminal to desperation and utter ruin. A saving hand may be held out to all, as there is hope that the worst may repent of their errors, and society is interested in driving no man to desperation. But we do say that the line between right and wrong requires to be more sharply drawn in China, and that no feelings of meretricious sympathy should ever prevent deliberate acts of fraud and ill-faith, much less of cool and deliberate embezzlement, being looked upon otherwise than as deeds which call for the marked reprobation of every respectable member of society. It is in an improvement in these directions alone that we can ever hope for an amelioration in the state of things which, with the greatest injustice to those—and there are, fortunately, very many such—who have for years carried on an upright and honourable career in China, has made that country a by-word of reproach in all parts of the world. If this is ever to cease, if having been in China is no longer to be, as it is in the present day, a *prima facie* presumption against any man, the heads of mercantile establishments must cease to throw undue facilities for fraud in the way of untried men; the communities, generally, must set their faces resolutely against those who are forgetful of what is due from them as men of honour; and, finally, if even with these practical and moral safeguards it still happens at times that men are charged and convicted of frauds, people must, as they value their own reputations for honesty and respectability, separate their natural pity for the delinquent from their deprecation of his offence; and show, without fear or hesitation, that if, as a man, though a fallen one, he has still some claim upon their sympathies, he has, as a criminal, for ever forfeited any claim to their respect or esteem.

THE FAILURE OF AUGUSTINE HEARD AND CO.

WE regret to find that the comments which we made upon the failure of Messrs. AUGUSTINE HEARD and Co. are more than borne out by later advices from Hong Kong. The explanation which was made by Mr. PARKER at the emergent meeting of the China Traders' Insurance Company is very unsatisfactory, and does not in any way show, what we think the shareholders have a right to know, namely, under what precise circumstances the capital of the company began to be encroached upon, and how it came to pass that the firm considered themselves justified in going on when they were absorbing funds of a company, whose affairs were entrusted to them, to such an extent as \$200,000. It would of course be premature to assume that there is not some satisfactory account to be given of the matter, and we do not ignore the facts which we pointed out when commenting before on the subject, that the funds of the company were entrusted to Messrs. HEARD, and therefore legally they had the right to make use of them. But even admitting this, it cannot be considered that they would be justified in risking them for a lengthened period when their affairs were becoming more and more involved. We by no means wish to prejudge this matter, and shall be only too glad if the reputation of the members of an old and hitherto respected firm can be saved by such an ex-

planation as is fairly called for by the circumstances, but we cannot ignore that large numbers are the sufferers by the failure, and that there are circumstances connected with it which ought to be completely cleared up. If the matter had gone in the ordinary course into bankruptcy there can be no doubt that pertinent questions could have been asked upon these points, and that an answer to them would have been absolutely insisted upon. With a liquidation under assignment this will not be the case, and it will certainly be a matter of regret if a precedent be established by which a case so obviously demanding a clear exposition of all the circumstances connected with it can pass by with a bare explanation that the firm "owed" the company the sum of \$200,000. The points upon which the creditors have a right to an explanation are very simple, and may be briefly summarised. At what period did it first become apparent that the affairs of the firm were becoming involved? What sum was owing to the China Traders' Company then? When did it first become apparent that the firm was insolvent? These and a few like questions frankly answered would be quite sufficient to place the affair in a far better light than it can possibly be in so long as full information is not forthcoming. As we said above, we do not wish to prejudge the issue in any way. We simply deal with the facts as they are at the present time, and we say that those facts call for further explanation. We cannot, in conclusion, omit to seize the present occasion of again deprecating the too easy manner in which matters of this kind are habitually treated in China. Steps which the most ordinary prudence would suggest for ascertaining the true nature of the action adopted by firms or mercantile institutions to which the public have entrusted their funds are habitually neglected, and it is not surprising that the most lamentable consequences repeatedly ensue. A little reasonable care and a little temperate but firm action taken in time would, beyond any question, have been sufficient to have saved Hong Kong from many commercial disasters from which it has suffered; but so long as the public generally, the newspapers, and those immediately concerned are content to neglect the clear duty of watching over their common interests, they cannot complain of the natural results of their own timidity and want of ordinary prudence, foresight, and moral courage.

THE retirement of Sir EDWARD CREASY from the high office of Chief Justice of Ceylon, which had been prematurely announced some months ago, is at length an undoubted fact. The health of the learned judge has been for some time a cause of anxiety to his friends, and although considerable improvement has taken place since his residence in England on leave, it was felt that a return to active duties in Ceylon could not be attempted without causing apprehension. It was, therefore, a matter for congratulation to himself and his family that he received quite recently an intimation from the Secretary of State for the Colonies to the effect that, in consideration of his eminent services, Her MAJESTY'S Government has determined to allow him to retire at once upon the augmented pension of £1,600 instead of £1,200, which his period of service entitles him to receive, a concession which is the more graceful, and is, no doubt, more highly appreciated, by reason of Sir EDWARD CREASY'S politics not being in accord with those of the present Ministry. The Conservatives have ever shown themselves superior to the mere consideration of politics when the public services of an eminent man have to be taken into account; in the present instance Lord CARNARVON saw in the person of Sir EDWARD not merely the upright and able judge of an eastern colony, but the author of deservedly popular works, and a public lecturer of no common order. The public of Ceylon, equally with the island Bar, will regret the necessity which deprives them of the presence of a Chief Justice whom they had long been accustomed to look upon with feelings of unmixed regard. Whether presiding at the Criminal Sessions or in Court of Appeal, the late Chief Justice of Ceylon invariably won golden opinions, and we do not hesitate to say his loss will be severely felt. However able may be the successor sent out to Ceylon, his lack of local experience cannot fail, for some time at any rate, to stand in the way of his usefulness.

THE programme of the Prince of WALES'S tour through the Indian territories of Great Britain has been so far modified as to include a fortnight's sojourn in Ceylon, where, however, his visit will be confined entirely to purposes of sport, though it is not improbable his Royal Highness may show himself to the people of Ceylon on one single public occasion. No doubt this departure from the original plan is due to the pleasant recollections carried away from the island by the Duke of EDINBURGH, who, we have good reason for knowing, experienced more lively satisfaction during his stay there than from any other portion of his tour in the East. In order to make sure of suitable weather, so necessary for Ceylon sportsmen, the Prince of WALES will reach Colombo on or about the 1st December. The monsoon rains will then have ceased, and travelling in the north of the island will be practicable. An elephant kraal at Kornegalle and a week amongst the elephant jungles around Trincomalie will occupy his Royal Highness for the two weeks to be devoted to Ceylon, the departure for the Indian presidencies taking place at the last named station. Owing to this visit being one entirely for sport, the public demonstrations are not expected to be on a large scale. Several Ceylon sportsmen of note, now in England, have been consulted in reference to the best course to be adopted for carrying out the island programme.

WE understand that the subject of the War in Atchin has been brought to the notice of H.M. Government, with a view to their mediation; but it appears that, although perfect friendship exists between the Dutch and English Governments, proposals with this view would not be received with favour. This wretched warfare must, therefore, drag its slow length along. The policy now pursued by the Dutch is simply to hold on to their coast positions, and not make further raids into the interior. They have permitted several ports to be opened for the export of pepper, &c., to Penang, and have promised that British traders shall share equally with themselves all advantages they may derive from the present war with the Sultan of ATCHIN.

WE understand that his Grace the Duke of BUCKINGHAM, the new Governor of Madras, has promised to give early attention to the scheme for deepening the Paumben Channel, which has occupied the Government and people of Ceylon for so many years.

WE are pleased to record that the Emperor of RUSSIA has given a decision in the case of the Peruvian coolie ship *Maria Luz* in favour of the Japanese Government.

THE death is reported of TSO TSUNG TUNG, Governor of the Kiangsu Province.

MATERIALS FOR PAPER MANUFACTURE.

In connection with an article which we have published on Paper Manufacture from Bamboo, it will not be out of place to direct attention to some of the salient points in an elaborate "Report on Indian Fibres available for the Manufacture of Paper, by Hemchunder Kerr, Deputy Magistrate," which has recently been presented to both Houses of Parliament by command of Her Majesty.

After some preliminary remarks on the materials originally in use among the Hindus for writing on, Mr. Hemchunder observes that he has not been able to obtain the precise date of the introduction of paper into India. "Block-printing on paper," he adds, "got into currency in Thibet in the sixth or seventh century of the Christian era; and in Cashmir the use of paper and papier-maché were became common at least twelve hundred years ago. It is well known that the Chinese first discovered the art of making paper with vegetable fibres, reduced by maceration and pounding into a pulp, about 2,000 years ago, and the Thibetans must have learnt it from the Chinese. It is probable that the Hindus of the plains got the art from the Thibetans directly, or through the medium of the Cashmiris—most likely from the latter, as Cashmir paper has always been held in the highest esteem in India.

Mr. Hemchunder describes at considerable length the process of paper manufacture in various parts of Bengal, but the chief object of his report was, of course, to give information in regard to "the different fibres named in the Government circular as available in the country and fit for paper-making." We here summarise his remarks with regard to the more important kinds. (1.) *Urtica tenacissima*, or *Boehmeria nivea*. Although only recently brought to prominent notice, the *Rhea* is by far the most

valuable fibre-yielding plant in India, and is certain ere long to contribute a leading staple for the export trade of the country. It has been cultivated in small quantities from time immemorial in Assam, &c., and it is familiar to the people as the source of a strong fibre for fishing nets. Two varieties are known to them, the *Dome rhea*, or the cultivated variety, reared by a class of fishermen (Domes), and the *Bon rhea*, or the wild kind. The plant is common almost everywhere in Burmah, and the Shans cultivate it for its fibre, with which they manufacture a kind of linen. In the Malay peninsula and on the island of Java its name is *Ramee* (this name has been adopted in America, where a machine for dressing it has lately been constructed), and in Sumatra *Caloe*. The Nepalese call it *Lepeeah*, and the Chinese *Chu-ma* or *Ma*, from which they manufacture their celebrated grass-cloth. Attention was first drawn to this fibre early in the century, but for some inexplicable reason the matter was allowed to drop. Some difficulty has been experienced in separating the fibre from the stems. 2. *Musa paradisica*. The fibre of the plantain tree is considered an excellent substitute for hemp. The other leaves of the sheathing foot-stalks yield the thickest and strongest fibres, which are easily cleaned by means of simple machinery. The fibre is fine, white, silky, and of considerable length, lighter than hemp, flax, and aloe fibre, but very strong. Professor Royle, in his *Fibrous Plants of India*, writes:—"Among cultivated plants there is probably nothing so well calculated to yield a large supply of material fit for making paper of almost every quality as the plantain, so extensively cultivated in all tropical countries for its fruits, and of which the fibre-yielding stems are applied to no useful purpose. . . . Each root-stock throws up from six to eight stems, each of which must be yearly cut down, and will yield from three to four pounds of fibre fit for textile fabrics, for rope-making, or for the manufacture of paper. As the fruit already pays the expenses of the culture, thus the fibre could be afforded at a cheap rate." In the Government circular spoken of Mr. Hemchunder was directed to report on rice-straw, bamboo, and sugar-cane refuse. The following are his observations respecting them:—"Rice-straw is a valuable fodder, bamboos are used for a variety of domestic purposes, and the refuse of the sugar-cane is used for boiling molasses, and they are not likely to be had sufficiently cheap for exportation as a material for paper-making. In the Maldah district . . . paper used formerly to be made out of bamboos by turning certain parts of the stalk into pulp, steeping the pulp in a solution of alum and water, and after agitating the mass, taking up on a fine sieve a quantity of the floating particles sufficient to form a sheet. The paper thus made was strong and durable."

In the same Blue-book Mr. Hemchunder furnishes a voluminous report on the cultivation of and trade in jute in Bengal, and under the head of "China Jute" we find the following:—"Mr. Blechynden, the able Secretary of the Agri-Horticultural Society of India, obtained in 1855 some seeds of the said hemp (which Dr. Roxburgh had previously proved to be the same as the jute of Bengal) from Canton, and found the conclusion drawn by Dr. Roxburgh to be correct. The following brief note has been furnished to Government, by Messrs. Jardine, Skinner, and Co., of Calcutta, who had obligingly written to their China correspondent's agent at Canton on the subject:—"In reply to your letter of the 4th ultimo, I am sorry not to be able to give a very reliable account about jute. The Chinamen mostly say the common hemp is the same as the Indian jute. There are two kinds of hemp; the one grown near Canton is called *Hwangma*, or yellow hemp, and is of a coarse description, usually used for making ropes; it is most grown in Sanhwi, about twenty miles from Canton, but is not an article of export from this part. The finer hemp is called *Lookma*, or green hemp, and is most probably the jute of Bengal. This is not grown near Canton (although an old book quotes it as being grown here the Chinese deny it), but comes from the Hankow districts, and is used for making grass-cloth, &c. The descriptions and pictures given of the jute plant exactly compare with the Chinese hemp." As the quantity produced of the Chinese jute is not apparently large, and the Chinese have to import jute from India, the extent of which is annually increasing, no competition need be apprehended from that quarter, at least for some time to come."

OUR RELATIONS WITH BURMAH.

(THE TIMES.)

An impression seems to be gaining ground in India that we are drifting into a new Burmese war. It is said that the King requires another lesson. With some slight varnish of European knowledge the Court is still essentially barbarian, and its advisers vain and insolent, trusting, not, indeed, to the strength of their country, but to their own fancied astuteness and capacity for outwitting the Englishman. As has been explained on a former occasion, the chief cause of dispute arises from the uncertainty of the frontier fixed at the close of the last war, in the time of the late Marquis of Dalhousie. The encroachments of the Burmese on the Karennee territory have exhausted the patience of the Indian Government, and it has determined to trace with accuracy the frontier line which was left undefined in 1852. The tribes of the debatable land have been forced of late years to submit

to Burmese occupation and exactions, and the Government of Lord Northbrook has remembered that though these tribes were formerly left to their own devices, in order that a barrier might be formed between independent and British Burmah, a great part of the Karennee territory does actually belong to Great Britain. This forms the chief subject of negotiation, and the English residents profess to think that the King and his advisers are endeavouring to outwit our negotiator. On the other hand, the King has issued a proclamation to his people, in which he declares his high regard for the British Government, and wonders how any one could think that he would offend such a Power for so paltry a matter as the Karennee territory. "You should believe," he says, "that there cannot be any war between two nations that are so friendly with each other on account of that worthless Karennee affair; and you should, without paying further attention to the words of those unintelligent people who instigate war between the two countries, try to promote the interests of trade." This proclamation will, of course, be looked upon by the King's opponents as a piece of Oriental duplicity, and they will cite alleged acts which plainly show the desires of the Court to be at variance with these philanthropic sentiments. A number of transgressions are set down to the Burmese, but the most important is the reception given to Leeseetahi, the Chinese General who was in command in Yunnan when Colonel Browne's party was attacked and Mr. Margary murdered. This personage is said to have been received with high honours at Mandalay. Accounts differ as to his precise rank and position in the Chinese Empire. Some say that he is not a General at all—at least, not a regular one—but has something of the character of an independent chieftain, and is capable of acting, according to his own fancies, in alliance with the King of Burmah or any other potentate. The King is accused of having done all in his power to prevent the departure of the Expedition, and when it came to an untimely end suspicion very naturally fell upon him. The Government of Peking seems to clear itself by the fact that Mr. Margary passed from one end of the country to the other in safety on his way to join the Expedition, and there is no reason why the Chinese Government should desire to forbid a trade between India and its own South-Western Provinces. But the King of Burmah and his Court may naturally believe that the approximation of the two great Empires would be destructive to the Burman Empire. Already the British hold their finest provinces. Valuable coast land was ceded forty years ago, and at the close of the late war Pegu was surrendered. Burmah has not now a mile of coast, and the country is becoming every year more feeble in comparison with the mighty Empire which has closed upon it. The British Provinces have advanced wonderfully, and the Burmese may feel that the future of their country is in the hands of their adversaries. Such a feeling might prompt to submission, but it may also suggest a crafty resistance under the guise of friendship. A Monarch brought up in the traditions of the Burmese King might revolt from the prospect of sinking into a tributary of the Indian Empire. Possibly this would be the most prudent and lucrative course for him, for it would make his position certain, insure the integrity of his present territory, and maintain, or even augment, his revenue. But the pride of independence rejects such base advantages, and the King may possibly have sought in treacherous intrigues a deliverance from the dangers which he and his counsellors forebode.

On the other hand, it is suggested that a section of the English residents would not be sorry to see another war, and that in obedience to this feeling they give the darkest colour to all the King's acts, and fill the air with alarming rumours. How far the apprehensions prevalent at Calcutta are based on reality we cannot determine, but the currency of these stories, and the growing belief that the King means mischief, must tend to produce the collision which it is the object of the Embassy to avoid.

(MORNING POST.)

The growing power of the vast Empire of China is becoming one of the most important facts of the Asiatic political situation. It is this growing power which confers upon the so-called Burmese Question the only gravity which it possesses. Taken by itself the difficulty which Sir Douglas Forsyth, if the latest telegrams may be trusted, has just satisfactorily arranged at Mandalay might be settled by an ordinary magistrate backed by a few companies of Sikh Infantry. The only army which the Burmese Ruler can muster is an undisciplined rout of half-armed peasants and town rabble, their weapons, spears, and worthless firearms, and their leaders as ignorant of warfare as themselves. It is true that the King is said to have been engaged for many years back in procuring arms and amassing munitions of war. The number of his fairly disciplined retainers may, however, be counted by scores, and though he undoubtedly possesses a few river steam-boats armed with cannon, the bare notion of these craft opposing any effective resistance to a single gun-boat is simply absurd. Of course we are not assuming that the Burmese Court harbours hostile designs. But, even if it did, the only result of a display of its impotent animosity would be to call down upon the remainder of the Burmese dominions the fate of annexation, which has already happened to the fairest provinces of the once mighty Empire of Burmah. As the King is known to be not only crafty, but crafty in an eminent degree, we may be sure that no thoughts of revenge for the loss of Pegu would ever tempt him to an unequal contest with the overwhelming power of Great Britain in Asia if there was no China at his back to encourage him with the hope of assistance. It is plain that the Indian Government is entirely of this opinion too, if the report be correct which asserts that one of the conditions insisted upon by Sir Douglas Forsyth was the permission for a British army to pass in case of necessity through the Burmese territory to the Chinese frontier.

This can only mean that in a certain eventuality it might be expedient for the British Government to use its immense Indian strength for the purpose of recalling the Court of Peking or its insubordinate viceroys and feudatories to a sense of the danger of permitting such outrages as the murder of the brave and unfortunate Mr. Margary. The splendid rewards and honours which have been showered upon the men of the small Sikh detachment which recently repulsed, with

such gallantry, the attack of some Chinese soldiers, or banditti, on a peaceful expedition are another indication of the gravity which the Indian authorities attribute to possible complications with China. These Sikhs, it will be remembered, were so convinced of their immeasurable superiority over the Chinese after their skirmish with them that they boasted that with five hundred Punjabee countrymen they would reach from one end of China to the other. The boast is of course an exaggeration. The utter annihilation of the Mohammedan insurrection of the Panthays in Yunnan—an insurrection which has assumed for years the proportions of an established Government—is a recent and convincing proof that China possesses more formidable troops than the savage irregulars of whom the Sikh soldiers hold so contemptuous an opinion. The Indian Government, however, is evidently anxious to encourage this feeling among the Sikhs. Though the Chinese Government might easily succeed in these days of improved torpedoes in making the stream of the Peiho too dangerous for a naval attack, a land invasion by the Sikh army, officered by British courage and skill, would be a blow at the fancied security of China which could not but produce the most wide-reaching consequences. And the concession which the King of Burmah is stated to have made would allow of this blow being struck without even a preliminary obstacle of the insignificance of another Burmese war.

It may be expected, nevertheless, that, in spite of the reports of alarmists, the danger of a rupture between Britain and China is sufficiently remote. The Chinese may, indeed, be becoming conscious of their increased strength, and the indications to this effect are conclusive as regards the feeling of the military classes at least. The Chinese soldier is always the least governable and the most truculent of military or semi-military bodies, and it did not want the recent outburst of the Janissary spirit against foreigners, in which an American consul ran so narrow a risk, to prove that the Chinese troops are filled with a spirit which might easily find vent in frightful massacres. If, accordingly, a huge Chinese force be assembling at Manwyne, we do not wonder at the anxiety and depression which such a piece of intelligence has produced. It does not by any means follow that these displays of force are intended in any hostile spirit towards the British Government. It is admitted on all hands that the frontier land, which was the scene of Mr. Margary's murder, is infested by hordes of banditti or guerrillas, whose dependence on the Chinese Government is not very well defined. If, accordingly, the Court of Peking really means to exact satisfaction for the murder, or even to reduce these barbarians into tolerable respect for the Central Power, the assembly of a regular force would be an inevitable condition. Besides, the elements of discord are always so rife in the ill-assorted body politic of the Chinese Empire that the mere collection of a military force may be as readily explained by internal as by external circumstances. There are, however, better reasons for attributing peaceful intentions to China, for some time to come at any rate, and these are to be found in the evident anxiety of the Chinese rulers to emulate the civilisation and wealth of the West, thereby manifesting a new-born sense of inferiority, and a desire to improve—the very reverse of all that has been known of China heretofore. The reforms introduced into Japan seem insensibly to have communicated their quickening and enlivening influence to the vast torpidity of the Chinese Empire. Coal mines are to be worked, railroads built, telegraph lines constructed. It is notorious that the Chinese have for some time shown their consciousness of being behindhand in the weapons and armaments of war. They are now displaying a similar anxiety in reference to the arts of peace. The celebrated Viceroy Li-Hung-Chang, the most powerful of Chinese Mandarins, has just advocated the introduction of European studies into the Chinese Universities. We may reasonably conclude that the new Chinese sense of a want of improvement is one of the best securities against China's rushing into war without the preparation which her ablest rulers feel she needs.

(DAILY NEWS.)

The cause of Sir Douglas Forsyth's mission to Mandalay, as announced in the Grand Durbar held at Delhi on the 23rd March, was the boundary difficulty. Lord Dalhousie's Treaty had settled a border line between the northern districts of Pegu, which is now British, and the territory left to the King, and this line was left to be still further defined by Commissioners. The latter found, however, that the line, if drawn as originally intended, would pass through a mountainous country, inhabited by the independent tribe of the Karens. Thereupon, according to a semi-official statement published by the Indian Government, communications were opened with the Burmese Government, which ended in the joint recognition of the independence of the Karens. But the Burmese Government has of late years been encroaching upon the Karennee country, and not long since set up a formal claim to its sovereignty, and as it has refused a new Boundary Commission, the Indian Government is under the necessity of insisting on its observance of treaties. At the Durbar, Lord Northbrook expressed his trust that Sir Douglas Forsyth would be able to effect an amicable settlement of the dispute; but in the meantime, Lord Napier of Magdala had been consulted by the Viceroy, and a portion of the Madras army is now ready to enter upon a campaign should one unhappily become necessary. According to the official telegram just received at Simla, however, the King of Burmah has executed an agreement, by which he recognises and guarantees the independence of Western Karennee, so that the original cause of strife which Lord Northbrook publicly spoke of at Delhi as "serious" may be considered to have been settled. But while this question was still pending the risks of hostilities were further increased by the attack on the Western China exploring expedition under Colonel Horace Browne and the lamentable death of Mr. Margary. As soon as the return of that expedition was known Sir Douglas Forsyth's departure was delayed, and Colonel Browne was summoned to Simla. While the public mind was still unfavourably impressed by these occurrences the news came that the King had received Leeseetahi, the Chinese governor of the province in which our countrymen had been so ill treated, with great honour. By many this was regarded as a more serious matter than the original cause of our dispute with Burmah. No one of course thought

of making the King of Burmah answerable for acts with which he had had nothing to do, but the obstruction offered in China, just beyond his frontier, was so entirely in accordance with his policy of preventing our trade with Western China that the assertion that evidence existed of his complicity in the outrage appeared only too probable. It is now stated that the King has given explanations respecting the reception accorded to Leeseetahi, and they are referred to as satisfactory, while no mention is made of the outrage on Colonel Browne's party at Manwyne. We are, perhaps, warranted in inferring that Sir Douglas Forsyth found no occasion to connect the Burmese Government with the Chinese atrocities, and that the Chinese Government will have to bear the undivided responsibility for the attack on our party. The Chinese, it is well known, are most intolerant of the intrusion of foreigners, and like us none the better because we were very friendly with the Panthays, a people who had thrown off their allegiance to them, and had maintained their independence for twenty years, until the Chinese brought their whole power to bear upon them and crushed them, as many as 400,000 men, women, and children being killed in one city.

The question of opening up trading communication with Western China is too important, however, to be treated as a mere incident of a doubtful dispute, and must be dealt with at Mandalay on its substantive merits. For many years we have been seeking access to the markets of China on this side, but the business appears to be impeded by difficulties other than those which are apparent. It would be satisfactory to know on good authority what the relations between the Burmese and Chinese Governments really are, and this we shall probably learn when the time comes for publishing the explanation given to Sir Douglas Forsyth as to the reception of Leeseetahi. A correspondent at Rangoon lately asserted that the King of Burmah is tributary to the Emperor of China, that the tribute was suspended for several years, but that since the destruction of the Panthay Power payment of it has been resumed. If this were so, the reception given to the Imperial General would be explained; if, indeed, explanation should be thought necessary when a weak Government is found paying respect to a strong one. In an unofficial telegram from Rangoon it is said that the King of Burmah has granted the right to send a British force through his dominions to Western China should such an expedition be thought requisite. This statement stands doubtless in connection with the previous announcement, also unofficial, that the Chinese are collecting a large force near Manwyne, in the province of Yunnan, and, perhaps, also with the visit of Leeseetahi to Mandalay. On these points, however, we must wait for further information. The Chinese Government is not the most frank among those with which we come in contact, even in the East, but it has a way of dallying with dangerous policies, and of ostentatiously preparing for enterprises which it is far from having the resolution to execute. The Chinese Government will have to be addressed in due time on the subject of trade with its western provinces; but in the meanwhile it has to account to us for the attack upon Colonel Browne's party at Manwyne. So far it is satisfactory to be assured that the difficulty of negotiating a commercial and Customs arrangement will not be aggravated by disputes with Burmah. In India this news will be especially welcome, and also in British Burmah. For the last five weeks the excitement in Moulmein and Rangoon has been very great, and the export trade of Upper Burmah has been paralysed. When the Chinese Government learn that the King of Burmah has come to terms with us they will, perhaps, see the impolicy of offering further opposition to our peaceful enterprises, and facilitate the only kind of progress we wish to make on their frontiers, the multiplication of facilities for the exchange of commodities between their people and ours.

OUR RELATIONS WITH CHINA.

The following letter has been sent to the *Hour* :—

Sir,—If at the well-meaning instigation of the British Envoy at Peking the Chinese came somewhat ignominiously out of their collision with the Japanese over the Formosa question, they have the satisfaction of now finding themselves in a position as to armament in which, had no excuse of probable war assisted them, they would not now be in. But during the long protracted probability of a war with their insular neighbours the Chinese were far from being idle, and the Government docks and arsenals at Foochow, which had lapsed into decaying silence, were reopened, to be the scene of busiest activity in the way of patching up every available ship upon which guns could be mounted. All along the banks of the river Yangtze, especially in front of the prime old city of Nankin, camps were formed, and guns of every size, description, and quality were raised upon wall and fortification. At every turn of the tortuous river Iniw, an alarmingly wide aspect of guns, relieved in its sombreness with the gay colours of their tattered flags, showed how stout the resistance was arranged to be; while rumours were rife that the old Bogue forts on the Canton river, which British arms had once laid low, were all to be remounted; a battery was built at the entrance of the Shanghai river at Woosung, and all along the coast ports extensive defensive measures were carried out. But no war came about, and, although having to pay a fairly exorbitant sum to the Japanese, and having taxed their countrymen to fill the fast emptying Imperial coffers, the Chinese found themselves with a huge army equipped for the field, a well-appointed navy, and their river and harbour entrances heavily defended. All this, doubtless, came about owing to a fear of a possible war; but with such a fair excuse, the crafty Celestial diplomat failed not to grasp the opportunity to put all in readiness against the also possible event of an even more serious war; for the general impression amongst foreign residents in China has for long been, and is, that a war with China and some European power is brooding. The Tientsin massacre would certainly have brought it to a climax with France, had not hostilities with Germany simultaneously broken out, and even Chinamen themselves are ready to admit this likelihood.

With such facts before us it is well to consider whether our naval force is sufficiently well represented in that wide command which includes

Japan and the Straits Settlements. Considering the number of open ports and their distance from each other, we confess to thinking our force inadequate, our supply not equal to the demand. To justly cover with protection ports so numerous and so far and widely spread from each other, a large numerical force is required; but even with the co-operation of the ships of other nations—the French and Americans possessing the next large fleets to our own—many of these ports are left for months unvisited by a gunboat. We recollect, during the last tea season at the Yangtze ports, only one gunboat, and that an American, was on the river, protecting a distance of some seven hundred miles, embracing the important commercial settlements of Chinkiang, Kinkiang, and the great tea mart of Hankow. Again, during the winter months, as the Peiho is frozen, gunboats have to be told off for the northern ports on that river, and, being icebound, are available only during three months for this local service. Foochow, too, an extensively-important tea market, lying considerably inland up the river Min, and bordering on a huge native city, is cared for by a gunboat spending alternate months between its river and the ports of Formosa; and only last year, when the tea-laden steamer *Canton* was hopelessly and helplessly wrecked at the entrance to the Min, was the necessity for the use of a man-of-war made apparent, for the cargo of this steamer was pillaged by the piratical junks, and, in the absence of a foreign man-of-war, the Chinese, at the request of our Consul, tardily despatched one of their customs' cruisers, but only when the mischievous plunder was concluded. Admiral Sir Charles Shadwell, then commander of the China station, was applied to by the Foochow Chamber of Commerce for the presence of a gunboat during the busy tea season, when so much was at stake, but had to reply that his force was not large enough, and that the vessel on the Foochow station must also do service in Formosa. Singapore and Penang, with the various ports in Japan, all claim a share of this distribution of naval power; but, as already pointed out, the supply of small craft suitable for river work is too limited. It is not so much that action is wanted from these ships, but the highly efficacious moral support, the presence of power, will have more effect in quelling the contingency of a possible uprising of the natives. Scarcely a week passes without some port or other being visited by inflammatory placards directed against foreign residents, and though they may never resolve themselves into more than idle threats, still it would be unwise to trust too freely to their insignificance, and not send the moral support of what is called "the inevitable gunboat." Nor is piracy abolished, for all Chinamen engaged at sea may safely come under the head of pirates, and for the total suppression of these, gunboats for coast service are required. Our commercial interests in China and Japan are so vast, and so growing in their vastness, that our position in these far countries should receive even more than sufficient support and protection.

Recent telegrams from China tend to support our argument. The Chinese Navy, in which to some extent, when necessity arises, is incorporated its Customs Service, is not a dead letter, as the news of the firing on a British steamer confirms. Not that this act, legal or illegal, is to be deemed of any striking significance; only as an act which with the Chinese probably never happened before, it asserts a feeling of more daring, and at least proves the actual fact of existence of war-vessels not in theory, but in practice. But for measures for the defence of British subjects, the disturbance at Chinkiang indisputably proves that it is unjustly unsafe to leave any port without the support of the "inevitable gunboat." Chinese mobs are lawless, excited, and have all their hostile feelings fanned up by their dislike to foreigners. It is no use disguising this. We western settlers in China are most unpopular, and it is only the knowledge of our power, and of what strenuous retaliation we are capable of adopting, that alone saves us from repeated disturbances, if not massacre. Similar disturbances as this Chinkiang one are of frequent occurrence, and when they do come about, it takes considerable time to send to the nearest port for a gunboat, and in this considerable time how much may be done by a reckless mob? Our interests in China are enormous, and our navy should be of a size and force to be able to protect these interests at all points and at all times.

—Yours, &c.,
June 23.

VIGILANT.

THE RISING IMPORTANCE OF CHINA AND JAPAN.

(FALL MALL GAZETTE.)

It is curious to observe the difference between the Chinese and the Japanese in their advance towards Western thought and civilisation. It is not merely a difference in the rate of progress, although that is sufficiently remarkable. The more deliberative spirit, the less impulsive character of the Chinese, to which may be attributed much of their immobility and slowness to move in any direction out of the path of custom, is everywhere apparent. They do move, but with a sluggish step, and not until they have thoroughly worked out in their own minds all the probable consequences. The Japanese, on the contrary, have more of the Malay or Celtic impatience of delay or restraint. They will not stop to consider what may be hereafter; it is enough that there is an immediate object which they desire to seize. Thus, while the Japanese in a single decade have worked a revolution; have restored an ancient sovereignty, while destroying nearly all the feudal orders and institutions of which it formed a part; have adopted railroads and telegraphy, and even changed their costume for hat, coat, and trousers, in which they appear at singular disadvantage,—the Chinese still carry the Tartar badge of their subjugation, the tail, with the same stolid complacency as their fathers did before them, and neither change costume nor customs in any material way. European ideas and inventions have indeed penetrated in some measure through the national pride, dense as it is.

The Chinese have taken to steamships, and are even building them for purposes of both war and peace, but the whole administrative machinery of the country remains unchanged. It was but the other day that we received some startling revelations of palace life at Peking,

showing how thoroughly Oriental the whole system of society and Government remains. A young Emperor is allowed to die of a curable disease, either because those about him refused, in their ignorance and prejudice, to resort to means of aid provided by foreign skill, or thought he would be better sent to heaven on the great dragon than left to disturb the existing order of things. It is rumoured that he had shown a restless spirit of curiosity and inquiry, alarming and disturbing to many—that he chafed under the restraints of a Court which forbade the Emperor to move about and see with his own eyes. He died at all events somewhat unexpectedly, as well as prematurely, and when the worst period of his disease was over. Then again the two Dowager Empresses, so lately superseded as Regents, came to the front, and a child was chosen to succeed, the son of one of the uncles. Thus another long lease of power was secured to one or both of these apparently capable and ambitious women. But a younger Empress, the widow of the boy Emperor just deceased, may have been very much in the way in this family arrangement. She might have given birth to a posthumous son. The life allowed her had soon become too burdensome to be borne, and no one seemed surprised to hear of her death. Her existence was undoubtedly a danger to the elder Empresses and their following, since she might have become at any time a centre and rallying-point for a palace revolution. Scarcely had she passed away than a vigorous decree appeared in the *Gazette* denouncing certain eunuchs—those dangerous parasites, the opprobrium of Asiatic Courts. Some were condemned to receive 200 strokes of the bamboo, which, if given with will or purpose, would hardly leave much life in the victim; others were made slaves, and banished to the further confines of the Empire towards Ili. What secrets were in their keeping will probably never be known; but their fate points clearly to a state of great uneasiness within the palace walls. Beyond those walls, and in the outer world of Chinese rule and policy, there was foul play to be unmasked, in which Chinese and Burmese, with a convenient wild tribe or two between them, must for the present share the blame. In the meantime, the necessities of a steam fleet are compelling Li-Hung-Chang, the enterprising Governor of Chihli, to commence the working of coal-mines with European machinery and direction. At the same time the Chinese are driven into telegraphy by the troubled state of Formosa and their relations with Japan; and after allowing a line between Foochow, the provincial capital, and Amoy, the port opposite Formosa, to be destroyed, they have renewed a contract with a foreign company to proceed with it. In many directions there is evidence that the energies of China are aroused.

The latest advices show that a large force is proceeding to the attack of the Ataligh Ghazee, in Eastern Turkestan, with the avowed intent of recovering possession and revenging the slaughter made upon them in 1866. We are told that 400,000 Chinese and Kalnuks were massacred by the Mussulmans in the Kashgar territory; while Kuldja, so lately annexed by Russia as a base for her trade with China and Central Asia, had a population of 150,000 nearly all destroyed when the city was taken by the Moslem insurgents. If the Chinese regain this territory, the tragedy will be re-enacted—only the Mohammedans will be the victims; as happened when the Chinese were victors in Shensi and in Yunan, not a Moslem of either sex or any age will be left alive. This is not only a war for geographical position, but a war of race and religion. Whatever degree of ferocity can be given to the conflict by political ambition and race hatred, intensified by religious fanaticism, we shall witness in operation. It will be a shock of two races and two religions, as well as two systems of government. The combatants will be free to wreak all the pent-up hatreds of a century over one of the fairest fields of Central Asia. A "jewel set in sand" was once the poetical but not untrue description of the valley of Kashgar and Eastern Turkestan until it was desolated by Mongol and Koord, by Buddhist and Moslem, in succession. Under its present ruler it has recovered some of its former beauty and fertility; but there are evil days before its present occupants. If the Russians do not intervene, the prospect is a bad one for Yacob Beg and his people; nor will it much improve if they do give effective aid, for the price of such service will not be light. Nor to Great Britain and our Indian Empire is it a matter of indifference what course Russia may adopt. If Eastern Turkestan fall under Russian influence, not only will our commerce be shut out by Russian tariffs, but Russia will gain access to the slopes of the passes through Afghanistan. It will seem strange and new to many that any movement of the long-despised empire of China can bring danger upon our Indian frontier; but, however strange it may be, it ought not to have been unforeseen by those whose business it is to be well informed on all matters affecting the security of our Indian possessions.

While China thus is moving indeed—and only too fast for our peace or security—Japan is effecting an exchange of islands with Russia in the Pacific which may not be altogether indifferent to us in its results. The half of Sagalien opposite the mouth of the Amoor, long coveted and nibbled at by the Russians, has at last been surrendered, in exchange for the Kurile Islands, which are not likely to be of any particular value to their possessors, whoever they may be. It is very natural that Russia should have desired the undivided possession of Sagalien, which in some degree commands the entrance to the Amoor and the adjoining ports on the coast. But it has no harbour, and in other respects is of no value, except in the possession of coal, a commodity which the Russians will turn to account as the Japanese never did. They do not want it, however, having abundant coal within their own islands. But it does not follow that, because it mattered little to Japan who possessed the southern half, or even the whole, of Sagalien, it is equally indifferent to other nations. To China it is not without a certain interest. Over the Pacific and along these shores will pass the great commerce of the future between East and West, and the whole of the southern islands where our Australian empire is rapidly developing. This latest acquisition of Russia will give her the basis she wanted for a new development of her fleet on the Pacific and her trade in the China Seas, equally valuable in peace and war. Altogether, it is impossible not to see how rapidly both China and Japan are becoming countries capable of exercising great in-

fluence on European relations and interests. For this reason, if for no other, it is needful that they should be carefully studied, and each step they take intelligently noted. As regards Japan more especially, it moves us to beware. Not that the rulers or people are hostile, but that they are both moving on a rapid gradient and at great speed. They move too fast, too impulsively and unreflectively, to be safe neighbours or allies, and may plunge into irreparable mischief to themselves or to others at any time. Some of their recent movements in the direction of representative government and a free press are sufficiently interesting in themselves, and sufficiently important in their bearing on national development, to deserve attention in Europe. On another occasion we may be able to show the direction their progress is taking and its probable ends.

JAPANESE AFFAIRS.

(FINANCIER.)

The state of Japan is not without interest at the present moment, as may be learned by perusal of the Japanese press. The country appears to be suffering alike from the scarcity of circulating medium, and from want of activity in its commerce, which, considering the efforts directed to the improvement of native affairs, very much by the adoption of the European notions, becomes a subject for reflection and regret. The development of the resources of Japan, we are informed, is practically at a standstill; her current expenses, though somewhat diminished of late, are large; and her real poverty is beginning to be not only apparent, but felt. About four millions of dollars in gold have left the country since the beginning of the year. The causes are sought to be explained in the fact that, when the country was first opened to foreign trade, the merchants made money very fast, though the country people did not largely gain thereby. So far as a trade may be said to be profitable to a country which obtains for what it values in a slight manner that which it values much, this early exchange of commodities was profitable; but, in this matter, Japan parted, as was quite natural, with her silk and tea at low prices, and bought foreign manufactures at high prices. All this has changed; for she sells her silk so high, and buys her manufactures so low, that she derives a far larger profit; but between these two periods the Civil War occurred, and a vast deal of waste and expenditure was the consequence. The waste was very soon repaired; but the expenditure, represented by a Floating Debt of 90,000,000 dolrs., is still a charge upon the country.

The effects have been twofold. Firstly, it disengaged a large quantity of the precious metals existing in the unproductive form of metallic money, and converted it into what is, at least potentially, productive capital. When money thus disengaged goes into the hands of bankers it is almost always wholly turned into productive capital, and it fulfils a similar office when used by a Government in redeeming debts. But, unfortunately, during a war it becomes, in one way or another, rapidly squandered. Secondly, as this inconvertible currency issued by the Government not only superseded much of the coin in circulation, but also exceeded it in amount, it led to a rise in prices, which has always at first a very stimulating effect upon trade. Subsequently, however, this inflation subsides, and a stagnation sets in, during which, though the foreign trade of the country is not affected, the exchanges are, and the gold begins to run away; and, if we mistake not, this is the true description of Japan at this moment.

There seems to be a strong feeling among the Japanese that a remedy may be discovered by the establishment of a protective system for the encouragement of home manufactures—not that they have reasoned out the effects of such a system, but it is a kind of patent nostrum believed to possess restorative virtues of a high order. Upon the other hand, there is a hopeful sign in the revocation of the prohibition placed upon the export of rice, which occurred whilst the late dispute with China was pending. Financial exigencies may have originated this permission, but it is now of great importance that entire reliance should be felt in the permanence of the measure. It will be remembered that during the late famine in India the Government refused to stop the export of grain. The question was one brought almost to a crucial test, and the soundest economists have endorsed the opinion of the Governor-General upon that occasion. What everyone must wish to see in Japan is an extension of its greatest industry, the growing of rice. The quantity of uncultivated land is enormous—not merely of upland, the cultivation of which is attended with great labour and expense, but in the valleys and plains. It is not very easy to say whether, with the present excessive land tax levied, the production of rice would increase rapidly under the permission to export it. The extended cultivation would at first demand an increased outlay of capital, and it may be doubted whether the agricultural classes are able to do more than make both ends meet at the end of the year after the land tax has been paid, and provision has been made for the necessities of life. Still, until the land tax is reduced, the only means which can operate on a large scale as an incentive to increase the production of rice, is the permission to export it, and, if the permanence of this can be relied on, the measure cannot but have a beneficial effect.

THE RECENT FAILURES.

(THE TIMES.)

With reference to recent events it may be remarked that the abuse of the credit system, fostered and stimulated by the growing competition which may be termed the handmaid of prosperity, is the evil to which all of the great commercial disturbances of this century are mainly traceable. The *modus operandi* has been in all cases the same, allowing for small modifications which are incidental to the changing circumstances of the times. Competition in trade is useful and desirable, but is extremely injurious when, as in the case of the credit system, it is abused, and that by a powerful class of institutions which are capable of assisting in the spread of unsoundness to a degree probably not ex-

perienced before the Limited Liability Act came into force. Competition in the sense of encouraging weak operators to do business in the produce markets of the world, by buying of them whatever paper they like to draw, is no better in principle than the system of stockbrokers affording facilities to enable their clients to gamble in the Stock Exchange. Indeed, it is far worse and more dangerous ultimately in commerce, as there are no fortnightly settlements to test the means of the merchant who ships tea from China, silk from Japan, or pepper from Singapore. Many persons will be perhaps surprised to learn that when such bills are drawn, instead of the shipping documents remaining attached to them in the process of negotiation, the area of which has become so much extended by modern competition, they very often get into the hands of one set of persons and the bill remains in the hands of another—the bill, of course, under such circumstances being comparatively worthless. If the drawer of such a bill be worth, as is very often the case, little or nothing, and there are millions of such bills for which money has been paid for the produce shipped, how is it possible that the foreign trade of a country can become otherwise than unsound in course of time under such a system? If it were possible always to make a profit upon everything which a merchant bought and shipped to a foreign market, there would be little danger ultimately, perhaps, of the holders of such bills suffering; but we know it is in the nature of all trade to act and react, and it is marvellous to what an extent banks and discount houses can go on year after year taking the same paper when the trade in which it originates has been for years a losing one. We find that the losses in exports which have already culminated in so much disaster are, however, only one side of the question. Importing merchants have also found for years past that their India and China business has not paid, and they trace the cause, to a large extent, to an unsound system of doing the business. Since the completion of the Suez Canal there has been no reason whatever why the six months' usance from the East should any longer prevail. It was scarcely necessary to draw bills against produce shipped at such a long date as six months, even when it was carried by steamer round the Cape. Now the voyage from China through the Canal occupies between five and six weeks, and from India a month; what, therefore, can be the object any more of a six months' bill? None, apparently, except that the drawer, often a man of straw, is enabled to have a large sum of money at his disposal for a long period, with which he can multiply operations and be comparatively indifferent to losses, so long as he can sell his bills to a Joint-Stock Bank, which takes the risk involved for the sake of a good commission. It is quite evident, however, that, when trade in particular articles of produce is bad for years together, the commissions must be very large to make it worth while to keep those engaged in it on their legs, and we hope that whatever unsoundness has thus worked its way into the import trade with the East, it may be eradicated with the *minimum* of injury to those only indirectly concerned.

(DAILY NEWS.)

A few days' reflection and the absence of another crop of exciting failures have sufficed to bring into prominence the real lessons of the late events, about which opinion in the market is now pretty well agreed. A great deal was at first said about the unprofitableness of the East India trade, and the losses on Manchester goods exported and Eastern produce brought home, which that trade has sustained. A great deal of just indignation has also been expressed at the conduct of the firms which have manufactured and circulated an immense quantity of accommodation paper. But it is hardly to these points that opinion is mainly directed. The unprofitableness of the Eastern trade, it is seen, may easily be exaggerated, and it has not been such as necessarily to produce collapse. It is notorious that several important houses have withdrawn or diminished their capital engaged in the trade, without any catastrophe, and that others, by careful management, if they have failed to make the profits of more prosperous years, have nevertheless succeeded in "living" and keeping their capital intact. Almost all trades must at times go through long periods of depression, and unless there is bad business as well, there need be no such disasters as those of last week. As regards the manufacture of accommodation paper also there is certainly nothing novel in these events. Such a manufacture is one of the standing dangers of the Money Market, at all times, and, even when Lombard-street was a smaller market than it now is, there have often been revelations as scandalous as those of the last few weeks, and on almost an equal scale. Opinion, therefore, is not concentrated on the unprofitableness of the Eastern trade or its consequences, or the discoveries as to accommodation paper *per se*. What it has fastened upon instead is the reflection apparently thrown by these incidents on some points in the management of the great joint-stock banks which have acquired immense new importance since 1866, and several of whom approach in extent of business and deposits, if they do not actually exceed, the Bank of England itself. The events which have occurred seem to prove that there is one radical vice in the practice of these banks, which present events, it may be hoped, will cure, but which in the future will produce still greater evils if it is not cured. This vice is the habit of giving a higher interest for deposits than the banks can really afford to pay. In former articles we have frequently dwelt upon this evil from another point of view. The banks were paying so much, we pointed out, that they were tempted to forget the first duty of keeping a large cash reserve, a duty which was left, according to an old tradition, to the exclusive care of the Bank of England. The great joint-stock banks, however, had obviously grown so large that this old tradition was inapplicable, and, to fit themselves for the new circumstances, they themselves must bear the expense of keeping a large reserve, which they could only do by reducing their rates for deposit. Now the same lesson is taught the banks by the magnitude of the losses they have sustained in attempting to lend the immense sums of money they have attracted. For many months there has been a constant complaint of the scarcity of bills; but it is now manifest that, unless certain bills had been taken on a colossal scale, which ought at best to have been taken in minimum quantities, the scarcity would have been even

greater than was at any time complained of. In other words, the joint-stock banks have been paying a rate of interest for money on deposit which they could only make, or appear to make, by lending a large part in a manner which involved too great risk of loss. It is, no doubt, quite true that bad debts are unavoidable in almost any business where there is a system of credit. A banker would have to go out of the market altogether if he made no bad debts. But the debts in question are apparently on an unreasonable scale, to which it is hardly conceivable that any banks would have committed themselves, unless with such a plethora of expensively gained money to employ as to unbalance the judgment or check the vigilance of those concerned in one or two critical cases. The directors of these banks have now to face their shareholders with a very gloomy tale of heavy losses and reduced dividends, which we hope they will have the courage to tell truly in every particular; but we doubt if there would have been any necessity for this tale if a beginning had not been made by the accumulation of immense sums of interest-bearing deposits exceeding what they could employ with their own customers.

We would suggest, therefore, for the consideration of the directors and shareholders of the banks at their ensuing meetings, when the subject of these losses must be discussed, the expediency of a thorough reform on this point of giving interest. If they are to keep a proper cash balance at all times, and without relying on an interval such as they have been fortunate enough to enjoy lately, in which they may increase that balance against contingencies; if they are also to avoid the danger of such great and unexpected losses as have just befallen them—then they have no choice but to reduce permanently their rate of interest on deposits, or at least adopt some mode of fixing that rate which shall leave a larger margin of profit on what they can employ safely. It is only an absurd tradition and the influence of routine which have kept them in the groove of adjusting their rates for deposit at one per cent. under Bank rate. The experience of the last two years, culminating in the disasters of the present time, should convince them that in their own interest, as well as for the general safety and steadiness of the market, that routine must come to an end.

SIR HARRY ORD'S PICTURE.

(To the Editor of the *London and China Telegraph*.)

SIR,—In your last paper I find the following paragraph:—

"Mr. Edgar Williams has painted, in his usual forcible style, a whole length portrait of Sir Harry St. George Ord, C.B., R.E., in the uniform of the Royal Engineers, of which corps he was lieutenant-colonel. The portrait has been commissioned by the Chinese inhabitants of Singapore to be placed in their Council-chamber as a memorial of Sir Harry's administration of the Government of those settlements for nearly seven years. The memorial picture is on view at Messrs. Graves and Co., Pall Mall."

As an old Singaporean I am puzzled to know where the Chinese Council-chamber is located. I know the Secret Societies have a "Rumah Congsi," or lodge, in Hong Kong-street, but Sir Harry would hardly like to find himself in such a locality; but then the only other place where the Chinese most do congregate is the "Celestial Club-house" in Tanglin, where young China meets to play at bowls and billiards and drink soda and b's or arrack punch. Surely this also is not a proper place for such a very popular Governor's whole length? Can you afford any information on this momentous subject?—Your obedient servant,

June 23.

JEMAHAT.

Literature.

Treaties and Tariffs regulating the Trade between Great Britain and Foreign Nations; and Extracts of Treaties between Foreign Powers, containing Most-Favoured-Nation Clauses applicable to Great Britain, in force on the 1st January, 1875. Part II.—Turkey. By EDWARD HERTSLET, C.B., Librarian and Keeper of the Papers, Foreign-office. London: Butterworths; and Harrison and Sons. 1875.

The volume before us forms the second part of a highly important work which Mr. Hertslet has undertaken in view of a desire which has been expressed by some Foreign Powers "to revise their commercial treaties not only with this country, but with other States," and he has undertaken his laborious task in order to save people the trouble of hunting through many volumes, published in a variety of languages, when they desire to obtain information on any point relating to any particular State. With this end his "object will be to show precisely, not only which of our commercial Treaties are now, wholly or partially, in force, but also what commercial Treaties have been concluded between Foreign States, containing clauses conferring more favourable treatment on their respective subjects, commerce, and navigation, than are specially provided for in the English Treaties, but the benefits of which concessions are, or might be, enjoyed by British subjects under the 'most-favoured-nation' clauses of the English Treaties." The compilation of a series of volumes of this nature must necessarily be a work of time, and Mr. Hertslet had originally intended to issue the parts, as soon as completed, in alphabetical order, "but it has been thought that it would be found more convenient if the Treaties with those countries were first analysed which circumstances may render more immediately necessary." Accordingly, although Part I. related to Austria, the present part is devoted to Turkey; we are glad, however, to be able to inform our readers that the next part will, we understand, deal with the Treaties now in

force with China; and if that part be prepared, as no doubt it will, with the same elaborate minuteness of detail as the present one, it will form a volume of the greatest possible interest and importance to all who are in any way connected with China and its trade.

Having premised thus much with regard to the reasons which have induced Mr. Hertslet, than whom no one is more competent for the task, to undertake the examination of the Treaties of every country, and the compilation of the present work, we proceed to give a brief sketch of the contents of the volume before us, in order to show the thoroughly exhaustive manner in which the subject is treated. Mr. Hertslet commences with a short historical account of Commercial Treaties and Capitulations which have been concluded between Great Britain and Turkey. This chapter, which is printed in large type, goes as far back as the seventeenth century, and gives a brief summary of the Capitulations of 1675 (the so-called "Capitulations and Articles of Peace" between Great Britain and the Ottoman Porte date back to a very early period, but they have been augmented and altered at different times, and now bear the date of 1675); an Act issued by the Sublime Porte on Oct. 30, 1799; the Treaty of Peace and Commerce signed Jan. 5, 1809; the Convention of Commerce and Navigation of Aug. 16, 1838; a portion of the Treaty of Peace between Great Britain, Turkey, &c., and Russia, signed March 30, 1856, at the conclusion of the Crimean War; the Convention of Aug. 19, 1858, between the Principal Powers of Europe and Turkey; and the Treaty of April 29, 1861, the Tariff of Dec. 7, 1861, and the Protocol of July 28, 1868. Mr. Hertslet next gives copies of the English Capitulations with the Porte, of 1675, and copies or extracts of eight Treaties, &c., of Commerce and Navigation now in force between Great Britain and Turkey, and previously mentioned in the above summary. At the end of this portion of the work we find the "Regulations respecting Immunities and Custom-house Formalities, with regard to articles or effects arriving to the address of the Consul-General, Consuls, and Vice-Consuls of Foreign Powers." In a note attached to these we are informed that "Consular officers are also allowed a certain quantity of tobacco annually for their own use, free of duty," the amount varying at different places; at one, we we observe, it is 200 lbs., and at another 190 lbs., including 38 lbs. of cigars, either of which seems to be a sufficiently liberal concession! We then come to a list of treaties and capitulations now in force between Turkey and Foreign Powers, other than Great Britain, and a short abstract of the contents of each of those Treaties, &c. Mr. Hertslet afterwards places before his readers certain clauses of Treaties between Turkey and Foreign Powers (the benefits of which are applicable to Great Britain under our "favoured nation" clauses) relating to the following matters:—Coasting Trade, Consuls and Consular Jurisdiction, Deserters, Extradition, Military Service, Property, Wills, &c., Protection, Religion, Taxes, Tribute, &c., and Wrecks, &c. The volume also contains copies of the "Turkish Law Granting to Foreigners the Right to hold Real Property in the Ottoman Empire, June 18, 1867," "Turkish Regulations relating to Consular Privileges, July 27, 1869," and the "Tariff framed in accordance with the Treaty of April 29, 1861, and signed on 1st December, 1861." We must not omit to mention that not the least valuable feature in this work is a very carefully prepared "Subject Index," without which so many works of this nature are rendered utterly useless for all ordinary purposes of reference. We have already sufficiently shown our appreciation of Mr. Hertslet's endeavours to render the present commercial relations between this country and Foreign Powers, as defined by the treaties now in force, perfectly intelligible to all, and, while again expressing the pleasure which the plan of the work, no less than its execution, has given us, we have only to call attention to one point on which Mr. Hertslet very properly lays some stress. From his official position at the Foreign-office as well as his hereditary connection with such like subjects, he enjoys exceptionable advantages in the preparation of a work like the present, but to prevent any misconception on this score, he concludes the Preface to the series of parts composing the Work with the following explicit declaration:—"I will only add that I desire it to be clearly understood that although the publication of these parts . . . has received the sanction of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, the undertaking itself is purely a private one, and that I am wholly responsible for the facts recorded, as well as for the accuracy of the statements made therein."

We understand that the next volume will be devoted to China and Japan, and may be expected in about two months.

HOLLAND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

AMSTERDAM, JUNE 23

Within a few hours after this letter is posted we shall know the result of the four re-elections at Utrecht, Arnhem, Delft, and Almelo. If it turns out that even in only two cases the Conservatives are beaten by the Liberals, then, it is asserted, the Cabinet will at once resign. But I take the liberty to think that this is by no means the intention

of our Ministry. It is quite true that they will no longer be supported by a majority, but the Liberals are thoroughly convinced that it is no time for them to take the reins of government in hand. It seems paradoxical, but nevertheless it is quite true, that the Liberals, when possessed of a majority, will be less troublesome to the Cabinet than when the party is in the minority. In the first case they have nothing to fear from Clerical tricks, and they can keep the Ministry "on the good path," whilst in the latter they are always obliged to be on their *qui vive*.

It is very doubtful whether the old Chamber will meet again during this session. No important Bills can be brought forward, because there is no time left for long debates. But possibly a convocation of the members may become necessary to vote some Bills of minor importance, which cannot be delayed.

You will remember that our Minister of War sent some subaltern officers into the provinces in order to enrol soldiers for the East India army. I regret that this measure has proved to be a failure. There seems not the least ambition for service in Java, or for fighting against the Atchinese. This is the more to be regretted because the *Dagblad van Ned. Ind.* has told us that, owing the absence of the necessary reinforcements, it will become necessary to abandon one or more of our military posts in the Archipelago. Our position is already so bad that if any disorders took place in the neighbourhood of Batavia the authorities would not know which way to turn. I need not add that it is not pleasant to read such statements, but many are of opinion that they have only been written to wake up a military spirit in Holland.

The Queen started yesterday *via* Rotterdam to England, where she will stay some weeks. Some days ago it became known that her Majesty had made her *début* as an authoress, she having written an essay in the *Revue des Deux Mondes*, under the title of *Le Dernier des Stuarts*, which will, I think, be read with interest in England.

Things are very dull on the Bourse. The prices of the money market are leaving the City to enjoy the beautiful weather abroad. There is no speculative demand, but prices are, in most instances, well maintained, except those of the shares of the Java Company, with reference to which a sort of panic has prevailed, and prices have fallen in a few days from 20 to 25 per cent. Some troublesome rumours are current, of which, however, I cannot guarantee the truth, and therefore believe it prudent not to reproduce them, the more, because the prices of the shares have begun to improve after the heavy fall. I need not to add that it does not cost much trouble to cause a heavy fall in the quotations of any shares. The Deli Company has done during last year a splendid business, and a dividend is advertised of 16½ per cent. Almost equally satisfactory has been the result of last year's operations of the Dutch India Trading Bank. From the report I derive the following particulars. Though the new tariff of custom and export duties—altered according to the principles of free trade—came in force on the 1st of January, neither the import nor the export trade has given brilliant results in our colonies. The unsatisfactory weather influenced badly on the sugar crop, and both the quantity and the quality left much to be desired, whilst quotations ruled under the average prices of last year. The coffee crop was better than was expected. Large quantities of tobacco were brought on the market in 1874, but the quality was, as a rule, inferior. Prospects are better for the current year. Every year a larger quantity of tea is produced, but for want of a regular market prices have declined continuously. Direct exports to Australia and America did not lead to satisfactory results. The production of tin was in 1873-74 50,000 piculs, next year the quantity will amount to about 60,000 piculs. The managers regret that the efforts to open a regular steam line between Java and Australia were unsuccessful. Notwithstanding the Government subsidy, it was found to be impossible to continue the service, but, on the other hand, the steam-shippping trade increased enormously in Java. As to the working of the Bank, it is stated that the discounts increased from £3,900,000, in 1873, to £4,508,272. The trade in bills has not given profits equal to the risks, which is due to the extraordinary course of exchange in Java. Larger advances than in the previous year were made on bills of lading. The accounts of the estates and agricultural undertakings have given satisfactory results, and this has likewise been the case as regards consignments. The East India agencies made a net profit of £511,049.96, whilst the profit and loss account closes with a total balance of £729,045.28½, being £250,000 more than last year. This satisfactory result was obtained notwithstanding that a considerable bad debt was made by the failure of a Japan house. The Bank has closed its relations with Japan, and the managers do not wish to enter again into relations with Japan firms, except at the introduction of a well-known Bank. The dividend is fixed at ten per cent. I may add that these are the mere outlines of a most interesting report.

Some days ago a colossal monument was cast at Messrs. Enthoven and Co.'s foundries at the Hague. It will be erected by the population of Banda, "in remembrance of the festival to celebrate the twenty-five years' occupation of the throne by H.M. William III., King of the Netherlands."

The statue of Thorbecke will be placed in this town on the Regu-lersplein.

The King has approved the appointment of Mr. W. T. Fraser as British Consul at Batavia.

AMSTERDAM, JUNE 24.

The re-elections have given the following result. In Arnheim the anti-Revolutionary candidate was beaten by Mr. Geertsema, the ex-Liberal Minister. In Delft the Conservative candidate, Jhr de Casembroot, obtained the majority, and this was likewise the case in Almelo, where Mr. Corver Hooft was elected. At Utrecht, however, a most disputed district, Mr. Kien, Conservative, was beaten by Mr. Bastert. The Liberal party have now a majority in the Second Chamber.

The annual report of the Dutch India Railway Company has been published. The balance-sheet shows a net profit of £377,893.

PRODUCE MARKETS.

The market for Colonial Produce has been somewhat more animated. Important parcels have changed hands, and a firm tone has prevailed.

COFFEE.—Holders of warrants of the Trading Company are not inclined to operate without an advance. The general attention is fixed upon the result of the sale to be held by the Dutch Trading Company. TEA firm, at former prices. On the 2nd of July a lot of 567¼ and 878/12 chests Java will be brought under the hammer.

RAW SUGAR.—The transactions have been important, good quality having found ready buyers for export to Belgium.

RICE is very dull.

SPICES.—In waiting for the result of the important sale of the Trading Company, at which 37 casks and 4 chests Nutmegs, 17 casks Mace, and 1,273 casks Cloves were offered, the transactions were of no importance. The result of the sale was very satisfactory, and in most instances high prices were paid.

JAVA TOBACCO.—Several parcels of sundry marks have been sold at satisfactory prices.

CUBES have met with a very lively demand; but the market is now somewhat quieter.

RATTANS.—A lot of 711 piculs was sold at satisfactory prices.

JAVA INDIGO has met with a steady demand; but the arrivals have been rather large, and this has checked operations.

BANCA TIN has improved somewhat in price, £51 being paid. Billiton is quoted at £49 nominal.

Monetary and Commercial.

The following failures arising out of the suspension of Messrs. Collie and Co. have been reported:—Mr. Lewis Stewart, East India merchant, St. Mary-axe, with liabilities estimated at about £100,000.—Messrs. S. and J. Graham, warehousemen, of Wood-street; amount of liabilities not stated.—Mr. William Marshall, of Manchester, merchant and commission agent, with liabilities estimated between £80,000 and £100,000, and Messrs. William Shaw, Son, and Co., woollen merchants, Huddersfield, with liabilities amounting to £30,000.

The creditors of Mr. A. E. Westbeech, of Fenchurch-street, merchant and commission agent, who recently suspended payment, have resolved to liquidate by arrangement, and have appointed Mr. Robert A. McLean (R. A. McLean and Co.) to be trustee, with a committee of inspection. The liabilities are £112,000, of which £4,000 are expected to rank against the estate. The assets are £27,000, consisting chiefly of estimated reversions from consignments to India, China, and Australia.

Mr. Charles Carnie writes as follows:—

Having noticed in some of your contemporaries remarks about a *private* meeting of bill holders at my office yesterday, I think it as well the matter should be fairly stated—the position being that the whole amount of £56,700 was drawn against *bona fide* purchases of goods and cotton (and not for the purposes of accommodation), which goods and cotton ought still to be in the hands of Collie and Co. to meet it.

We have received the subjoined communication from the Borneo Company:—

With reference to the paragraph in the last issue of the *London and China Telegraph*, taken from the *China Mail*, stating that Mr. H. Nicaise, our manager at Hong Kong, had joined the board of the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, we will thank you to state in your next issue that Mr. Nicaise has sent in his resignation as director of that establishment, by order of the board of directors of this company.

The Eastern Telegraph Company announce that, subject to the final audit, the accounts show a balance available for dividend which will enable the directors to recommend a final dividend of 2s. 6d. per share, making, with the previous payments on account, a dividend for the year ending 31st March of 5 per cent., carrying to reserve a balance of £36,000.

The Eastern Extension, Australasia, and China Telegraph Company have declared an interim dividend for the quarter ending 31st March, 1875, of 3s. per share, or 6 per cent. per annum, free of income-tax, payable on the 15th proximo.

The report of the Assam Company states the net profit for the year at £45,026, out of which it is proposed to pay a dividend of 17½ per cent., which makes, with 5 per cent. already paid, a total distribution of 22½ per cent. for the twelve months.

The Universal Marine Insurance Company (Limited) announce the payment of interest at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum, free of income-tax, for the half-year ending the 30th inst.

During the week ended the 19th inst. the deliveries of tea from the bonded warehouses in London amounted to 3,662,255lb., of which 2,048,619lb. was for home consumption, 870,323lb. was exported, 638,157lb. was removed coastwise, 102,099lb. was sent coastwise for immediate export, and 3,059lb. was taken for ships' stores. The duty received was £51,216, being nearly 2 per cent. more than in the preceding week; while during the period from the 1st to the 19th inst. the increase is 9 per cent. as compared with the corresponding period of last month.

It is notified that Mr. Lancelot John Wade has been admitted a partner in the firm of Robertson and Co., of Newman's-court, Cornhill.

Within the last few days some inquiry for Bar Silver has arisen, and the price has advanced to 55½d. per oz. standard, which is the present quotation. The Market for Mexican dollars is inactive and dull; the amount now on hand, about £140,000, has not yet been placed, and quotations remain nominal.

TEA.

SILK.

LONDON QUOTATIONS—JUNE 24.

GAMBIER.—With reduced supplies on the spot a strong demand has prevailed, and prices have advanced 2s. 6d. per cwt., about 600 bales being sold, commencing at 26s. 6d., and rising to 29s., but the unexpected arrival of the St. Aubin has caused a decline to 28s. for whole bales and 27s. 6d. ex ship. The demand for arrival has been extensive, and sales to the extent of about 1,000 tons, July to April shipment at

TIN has been less active, and the quotations for Straits have slightly declined, being at the close £84 on the spot and £83 10s. afloat. Banca rules at £88, and Billiton at £83, showing no change.

MANCHESTER GOODS.

QUOTATIONS FOR CHINA GOODS.

					Reference	this time
		lbs.	Count.	No.	Price.	last year
Grey Shirts	... 39 in...	7	14x13	37	6/9	7/14
Do.	... 39	7	14x13	38	8/0	8/6
Do.	... 39	8	16x15	39	8/3	8/44
Do.	... 39	8	16x15	40	9/6	10/0
Do.	... 39	9	19x19	41	11/7	12/0
Do.	... 39	10	19x19	43	12/6	13/0
T-Cloths	... 32 in...	6	14x14	43	5/3	5/3
Do.	... 39	6	15x15	44	5/7	5/6
Do.	... 39	7	15x15	45	6/0	6/0
Do.	... 39	7	16x16	46	6/44	6/44
Mexican	... 39	7	18x18	47	6/6	6/7
Do.	... 39	7	18x18	48	7/9	7/9
Do.	... 36 in...	8	18x18	49	7/7	7/9
Do.	... 39	8	18x18	50	8/9	8/9
Spots	... White...	—	—	51	10/6	10/44
Brocades	... 39	—	—	52	10/9	10/7
Drills	... 30 in...	15	—	53	3/4	3/4
Do.	... 39	15	—	54	3/4	3/4
Jeans	... 39	8	—	55	8/44	8/7
Do.	... 39	8	—	56	9/44	9/0
	Water Twist.		16/34		28/33	
Good Seconds	...	...	...	104	...	12
Best ditto	...	...	...	114	...	13

Shipping Intelligence.

DEPARTURES.

Date.	Ship.	Captain.	For	From
Jun. 15	Crested Wave	Renouf	Anjer	Greenock
17	Cathaya	Morgan	Yokohama	London
17	Eastern Monarch	Donaldson	Hong Kong	Liverpool
17	Beemah	Blackstone	Do.	Do.
17	Martaban (s.)	Barlow	Rangoon	Greenock
17	Queen of the Age	Montgomery	Singapore	Cardiff
17	Unison	Webster	Galle	Do.
17	St. Bernhard	Regnier	Singapore	Do.
18	Reichstag	Hauschildt	Java	Do.
19	Estrella de Chile	Rolle	Macassar	Liverpool
19	Nelly	Klyn	Singapore	Amsterdam
20	Due Luigi	Tagliafico	Singapore	Cardiff
20	Mirella	Pitt	Hong Kong	Do.
20	G. F. Muntz	Schulken	Singapore	Do.
21	Carolus Magnus	Gordon	Hong Kong	Liverpool
21	Chinaman	McKenzie	Shanghai	New York
22	Remus	Dineley	Manila	Liverpool
22	Duke of Sutherland (s.)	Rain	Batavia	Clyde
21	Angela	Hargray	Singapore	Bordeaux
20	Susanna Johanna	Valk	Java	Antwerp
21	Nicolette	Bouten	Do.	Rotterdam
21	Kanagawa	Carst	Sourabaya	Do.

ARRIVALS.

Date.	Ship.	Captain.	From	At
Jun. 16	Northampton	Barclay	Shanghai	New York
16	Gladys (s.)	—	Maulmain	Antwerp
16	Lizzie H. Babson	—	Manila	New York
18	Verona	Collins	Singapore	Do.
19	Hamilton	Ross	Manila	Do.
19	Dahlkarsia	Nilsson	Batavia	Do.
21	St. Aubin	Blouet	Singapore	London
20	Gem of the Nith	Rigden	Java	Falmouth
20	Zariza	Swante	Rangoon	Do.
18	Galici	Mey	Batavia	Amsterdam
19	Forward	Strachan	Hong Kong	Portland, U.S.
22	Caducus (s.)	Sutterley	Bassett	Liverpool
22	Sea Nymph	Skoomand	Manila	Do.
22	Sarah Nicholson	Selkirk	Do.	Do.

See Shipping Postscript and Correspondents' Letters.

LOADING.

At LONDON.—STEAMERS VIA SUEZ CANAL.—For Penang, Singapore, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Yokohama, and Hiogo: Paraguay, Naples. For Singapore, Hong Kong, and Shanghai: Lorne, Teviot.

SAILING VESSELS.—For Yokohama and Hiogo: Flying Spur, Albuera, Western Chief. For Shanghai: Titania, Albert Victor, Windhover. For Hong Kong: Coldstream, Birker, Gryfe, Marina. For Batavia, Samarang, and Sourabaya: Sir Robert Sale, Robert Porter. For Singapore: Belle of Southesk, George Croshaw. For Penang: Salus. For Colombo: Eleanor.

At LIVERPOOL.—For Penang, Singapore, Hong Kong, and Shanghai: Hector (str.), Diomed (str.). For Manila: Emiliano (str.). For Batavia: Martha P. Tucker. For Singapore: Banian, Amsterdam.

At GLASGOW.—For Manila, Olano, Aurora. For Colombo: Pictou Castle.

At GREENOCK.—For Batavia: Sourabaya.

SPOKEN.

JOHANNES, Amsterdam to Batavia, June 1, 23 N., 22.59 W.
RONA, Liverpool to Manila, June 13, 49.20 N., 6.50 W.
AURORA, Amsterdam to Batavia, May 1, 22 S., 29 W.
Q.D.J.F., Macassar to Rotterdam, June 9, 37 N., 34 W.
TIMOUR, Shields to Singapore, June 17, 51.03 N., 14.37 W.
CALLAO, Akyab to Falmouth, May 30, 20.39 S., 0.9 E.
EUROPA, Batavia to Amsterdam, May 31, 19 S., 1.46 W.
LANDSBORO, Maulmain to Havre, June 4, 7.40 S., 14.28 W.
ADMIRAL, Bassett to Falmouth, May 26, 31.18 S., 14.4 E.
ALTAIR, Liverpool to Singapore, June 16, 32.45 N., 16.36 W.
PHINEAS PENDLETON, Singapore to London, May 21, 20 S., 2 W.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

Current Rates of Freight for Vessels on the Berth.

Per STEAMERS VIA SUEZ CANAL.—To Yokohama: 55s. weight, 50s. to 65s. meat. To Hiogo: 55s. weight, 60s. meat. To Nagasaki: 70s. weight, 70s. meat. To Shanghai: 45s. weight, 40s. meat. To Hankow: 60s. weight, 55s. meat. To Hong Kong: 45s. weight, 40s. meat. To Singapore: 45s. weight, 40s. meat. To Penang: 45s. weight, 40s. meat. To Colombo: 35s. weight or meat. To Batavia: 60s. meat. To Samarang: 65s. meat. To Sourabaya: 70s. meat.

Per SAILING VESSELS.—To Yokohama: 40s. weight, 30s. meat. To Hiogo: 40s. weight or meat. To Nagasaki: 50s. weight, 40s. meat. To Shanghai: 32s. 6d. weight, 25s. meat. To Hong Kong: 30s. weight, 25s. meat. To Singapore: 25s. weight, 20s. meat. To Penang: 25s. weight, 20s. meat. To Batavia, Samarang, and Sourabaya: 20s. to 25s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meat. To Colombo: 25s. weight, 22s. 6d. meat.

The current quotations for coal, &c., are as follows:—From Wear or Tyne, per keel.—To Yokohama: £35. To Shanghai: £35. To Hong Kong: £26. To Singapore: £23. To Penang: £23, f.c. To Colombo: £23. To Galle: £23. To Batavia and Sourabaya: 23s.

From Newport, Cardiff, or Swansea, per ton.—To Yokohama: 35s. To Shanghai: 30s. To Hong Kong: 27s. To Singapore: 23s. To Colombo: 24s. To Galle: 24s. To Batavia and Sourabaya: 23s. From Birkenhead, per ton.—To Hong Kong: 25s. To Shanghai: 30s. To Singapore: 19s. To Batavia and Sourabaya: 23s. To Galle: 21s.

CASUALTIES.

ST. HELENA, MAY 24.—The barque Kelso, from Singapore, arrived here, reports on the 21st April, in lat. 32 S., lon. 36 E., experienced a terrific gale, and had fore and mizen rigging carried away, bowsprit and foreyard sprung, and deck much strained.

The Omba, from Shanghai, for London, when coming to anchor off here, collided with mail steamer, doing damage to both vessels.

SINGAPORE, MAY 14.—The Tartar (str.), from London, for Shanghai, in passing through the Suez Canal, struck on some hard substance and broke two blades of her propeller. After examination surveyors allowed her to proceed to Hong Kong, where she will dock after discharging the bulk of her cargo.

MISCELLANEOUS.

MALTA, JUNE 13.—Passed, Madura (str.), from Batavia, for Nieuwe Diep.

SUEZ, JUNE 13.—Arrived, Conrad, from Batavia, for Nieuwe Diep; 20, Nestor, from Shanghai, for London; 21, Glenartney, from Hankow, for London.

PORT SAID.—Arrived, June 18, Menelaus, from Liverpool, for China.

ST. HELENA.—Arrived, May 25, Kelso, from Singapore; 29, Oquendo, from Moulmein; 30, Noch I., from Batavia; Omba, from Shanghai, for London; Louis Auguste Constantyne, from Batavia; 31, Uranus, from Batavia; Ungeni, from Colombo; Mina, from Banjoewangie; St. Joseph, from Akyab; Parthia, from Rangoon; Mardoll, from Bassein; Trionfo, from Rangoon; June 1, Cora, from Rangoon.

Passed, May 23, Deogaum, from Nagasaki; 30, Dorset, from Colombo, for London; Eliza Cambell, from Moulmein, for Bremerhaven; Aline, from Rangoon; Undine, from Rangoon, both for Falmouth; Sapphire, from Manila, for London; 31, Constantia, for Singapore.

PORT ELIZABETH, MAY 21.—The purchasers of the Jupiter T., from Singapore, to New York, which went ashore twelve miles east of Bird Island, on April 19, have saved a quantity of cargo, and are still working at the wreck. The weather has hitherto been somewhat unfavourable.

ADEN.—Arrived, June 2, Leon (str.), from Liverpool, and left for Manila.

The Devonhurst (str.), from London, for Shanghai, which put in here April 12, disabled, has completed her repairs, reshipped cargo, and sailed on the 7th inst.

MANILA, JUNE 8.—The wreck of the Camiguin (str.) has been sold for \$1,501.

LAUNCH.

Messrs. Thomas Wingate and Co., of Whiteinch, launched from their shipbuilding yard, on the 22nd inst., a magnificent iron sailing ship of the following dimensions:—Length, 250 feet; breadth, 40 feet; depth of hold, 23½ feet; 1,923 tons n.m., and classed A 100 at Lloyd's. She is a sister ship to the Culzean Castle, recently launched from the same yard for Messrs. Thomas Skinner and Co., of London and Glasgow, and, like her, will be fitted with all recent improvements, including an Emerson and Walker's independent steam windlass, and large donkey engines for working the pumps and cargo gear and otherwise economising manual labour. The poop is elegantly fitted up in polished maple and teak, and has accommodation for thirty cabin passengers, besides captain and officers. The ceremony of naming the vessel Brodick Castle was performed by Mr. W. E. Birrell, of Glasgow. The vessel was at once taken into the builders' tidal dock to receive her masts, &c.

NOTICE TO MARINERS.

China, Amoy.—Intended Light on Tsing-Su Island.—The Customs Department at Shanghai has given notice that a lighthouse is now in the course of construction on the northern slope of Tsing-seu Island, entrance of the outer harbour of Amoy. The light will be fixed, showing a white light between the bearings about N.W. ¾ W. through west and south, to S.E. ¼ E., and a red light over the Chauchat rocks and the Taepan shoal; it will be elevated 125 feet above the level of the sea, and in clear weather the white light should be seen from a distance of 15 miles. The illuminating apparatus will be dioptric, or by lenses of the fourth order. The tower will be built of stone and brick, octagonal in shape, 33 feet high, and painted in alternate red and white vertical stripes, and the dwellings white. Approximate position, lat. 24° 22' N., long. 118° 7¼ E.—Hydrographic-office, Admiralty, June, 1875.

SUNDRIES, PER "CHINAMAN," FROM NEW YORK, FOR SHANGHAI, JUNE 8.

250 kegs nails	25,000 lbs.	1 ½-brl. maple sugar	
100 brls. cement		5 stoves and fixtures	
100 do. pitch		1 ca. furniture	
25 ½-brls. split peas		2 do. books	
14 ca. hardware		3 do. clothing	
1 do. rockets		229 tons coal	
60 bls. duck	5,285 yds.	14,000 cs. oil	140,000 gls.
5 ca. tinware		45 pcs. oak plank	5,614 feet
3 bxs. fixtures		100 bls. sheetings	80,080 yds.
10 gun carriages complete		25 ca. clocks	204 pieces
10 timbers			

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Large Illustrated Catalogue with many Estimates, and upwards of 200 Engravings, post free for Twenty-four Stamps to any part of the world.

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Local Boards and Agencies in India, China, and all the colonies.

Moderate premiums, at rates suited to each climate.

Immediate reduction to home rates on return to Europe or other temperate climate.

Loans advanced to civilians and military officers.

Profits divided every five years.

Annual income of the Company upwards of £700,000 sterling.

Invested capital and accumulations upwards of £4,500,000.

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Edinburgh ... 3 and 5, George-street.
Dublin ... 66, Upper Sackville-street.

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Incorporated by National Decrees of 7th and 8th of March, 1848, and by Imperial Decree of 20th July, 1854, and 31st December, 1866.

Recognised by the International Convention of 30th April, 1862.

CAPITAL, fully paid up, £3,200,000.

Reserved Fund ... £20,000,000 ... £800,000.
HEAD OFFICE—14, Rue Bergère, Paris.

AGENCIES AT—Lyons, Marseilles, Nantes, Mulhouse, Roubaix (France), Brussels (Belgium), Alexandria (Egypt), Calcutta, Bombay, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Saigon (Cochin China), Bourbon (Reunion), and Yokohama (Japan).

LONDON BANKERS.—Bank of England and Union Bank of London.

LONDON AGENCY.—14, Leadenhall-street, E.C.

MANAGER.—Theod. Dromel.

Sub-MANAGER.—H. Deyval.

The London Agency grants Drafts and Letters of Credit, and purchases or collects Bills payable at the above-named places.

The Agency will conduct Banking business of every description with the Continent, India, China, &c., upon terms to be ascertained at the Office.

Office hours, 10 to 4; Saturdays, 10 to 2.

THE AGRA BANK (Limited).

Established in 1833.

CAPITAL, £1,000,000.

Head Office:—NICHOLAS-LANE, LOMBARD-STREET, LONDON.

Branches in Edinburgh, Calcutta, Bombay, Madras, Kurrachee, Agra, Lahore, Shanghai, Hong Kong.

Current accounts are kept at the Head Office on the terms customary with London Bankers, and interest allowed when the credit balance does not fall below £100.

Deposits received for fixed periods on the following terms, viz.:—At 5 per cent. per annum, subject to twelve months' notice of withdrawal. For shorter periods deposits will be received on terms to be agreed upon. Bills issued at the current exchange of the day on any of the Branches of the Bank free of extra charge; and approved bills purchased or sent for collection. Sales and purchases effected in British and Foreign Securities, in East India Stock and Loans, and the safe custody of the same undertaken. Interest drawn, and Army, Navy, and Civil Pay and Pensions realised. Every other description of Banking Business and Money Agency, British and Indian, transacted.

J. THOMSON, Chairman.

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ORIENTAL BANK CORPORATION.

Incorporated by Royal Charter, August 30, 1851.

PAID-UP CAPITAL, £1,500,000.

RESERVED FUNDS, £500,000.

The Corporation grant Drafts, and negotiate or collect Bills payable at Bombay, Calcutta, Colombo, Foochow, Hiogo, Hong Kong, Kandy, Madras, Mauritius, Melbourne, Point de Galle, Pondicherry, Port Elizabeth, Shanghai, Singapore, Sydney, Tellicherry, and Yokohama on terms which may be ascertained at their Office. They also issue Circular Notes for the use of Travellers by the Overland Route.

They undertake the agency of parties connected with India and the Colonies, the purchase and sale of British and Foreign Securities, the custody of the same, the receipt of Interest, Dividends, Pay, Pensions, &c., and the effecting of remittances between the above-named Dependencies.

They also receive deposits of £100 and upwards for fixed periods, the terms for which may be ascertained on application at their Office.

Office hours, Ten to Three; Saturdays, Ten to Two. Threadneedle-street London, 1875.

HONG KONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

Capital, \$5,000,000. All paid up.

Reserve Fund, \$100,000, at exchange of 4s. 6d.—£22,500.

COURT OF DIRECTORS AND HEAD OFFICE IN HONG KONG.

ACTING MANAGER—T. Jackson, 31, Lombard-street. BANKERS—London and County Bank.

BRANCHES AND AGENCIES.

Hong Kong	Hankow	Saigon
Shanghai	Yokohama	Singapore
Foochow	Hiogo	Bombay
Ningpo	Manila	Calcutta

The Corporation grant Drafts upon, and negotiate or collect Bills at any of the Branches or Agencies; also receive Deposits for fixed periods, at rates varying with the period of deposit.

The Corporation issue Letters of Credit and Circular Notes, negotiable in the principal cities of Europe, Asia, and America for the use of travellers.

They open Current Accounts for the convenience of constituents returning from China, Japan, and India.

They also undertake the Agency of constituents connected with the East, and receive for safe custody Indian and other Government Securities, drawing Interest and Dividends on the same as they fall due.

Shareholders having their shares on the London register receive their dividends at the fixed rate of 4s. 6d. per dollar. Dividends are payable in London in April and October, on receipt of the advice of meeting in Hong Kong, held in February and August.

Diploma of Merit, Vienna Exhibition, 1873.

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THE most delicious SAUCE in the world to CHOPS, STEAKS, FISH, &c. Sold by all Grocers and Oilmen in bottles 6d., 1s., and 2s. each. Trade mark—Willow-pattern plate.

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without Eggs, Butter or Lard. Bread

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digest, and much more wholesome than

that raised with yeast, and a larger quan-

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flour. One trial will convince the most sceptical of its

superiority over others. Sold by Grocers, Chemists, and

Oilmen in 1d. packets; 6d., 1s., 1s. 6d., and 2s. Tins.

Prepared by GOODALL, BACKHOUSE, & CO., LEEDS.

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THE BEST AND MOST

AGREEABLE TONIC yet intro-

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it is INVALUABLE. Recommended for its

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F.C.S., F.A.S.L., F.R.S.S.A., &c. Sold by

Grocers, Oilmen, and Chemists, in large bottles at 1s.

1s. 1d., 2s., and 3s. 3d. each. Prepared by GOODALL



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...	Tons	H.p.	...	...
*Mirzapore	3,763	600	July 1	Mediterranean, Aden, Ceylon, Madras, Calcutta, Straits, China, Japan, and Australia.
Khedive	3,742	600	July 8	Mediterranean, Aden, Bombay.
*Khiva	3,669	450	July 15	Mediterranean, Aden, Ceylon, Madras, Calcutta, Straits, China, and Japan.
Thibet	3,593	400	July 22	Mediterranean, Aden, Bombay.

* Taking passengers for Bombay also by branch steamer from Suez.

OVERLAND ROUTE
and SUEZ CANAL.—Under contract for conveyance of H.M.'s Mails.—The PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL COMPANY despatch their steamers from Southampton, via the SUEZ CANAL, every Thursday, for Gibraltar, Malta, Port Said, Suez, Aden, and Bombay. Every second Thursday for Ceylon, Madras, Calcutta, Straits, China, and Japan.

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For full particulars apply at the Company's Offices, 129, Leadenhall-street, E.C., and 25, Cockspur-street, S.W.

OVERLAND ROUTE via MARSEILLES and SUEZ CANAL.—MESSAGERIES MARITIMES DE FRANCE, 97, CANNON-STREET.—FRENCH MAIL STEAMERS LEAVE MARSEILLES (via S.C.), ON THE FOLLOWING SUNDAYS, at 10 A.M.:—

Mei Kong	July 4	For	Naples, Port Said, Aden, Gallé, Singapore, Batavia, Saigon, Hong Kong, Shanghai, and Yokohama.
Amazon	July 18		
Andry	Aug. 1		
Djennah	Aug. 15		
Tigre	Aug. 29		
Ava	Sept. 12		

The Steamers of the 4th July, 1st and 29th August connect at Aden with the Steamers for Reunion and Mauritius.

The Steamers of the 18th July, 15th August, and 12th September connect at Gallé with the Steamers for Pondicherry, Madras, and Calcutta.

For Alexandria and Naples ... Every Thursday (noon)
" Constantinople ... " Saturday, 5 P.M.
" Algiers ... " " " "

The Company's Weekly Steamers to Alexandria connect at Alexandria with the English Mail Steamers from Brindisi to Bombay.

For Passage Rates or information, apply at the Company's London Head Office, 97, Cannon-street, E.C.; or to the West-end and Sub-Agency, 51, Pall-mall, S.W.; also to G. and H. FRICKEL and Co., Liverpool; or to SMITH and Co., Rotterdam; also at the Offices of the Messageries Maritimes in Paris, Lyons, Bordeaux, and Marseilles.

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Steamers.	Class.	Tons.	Horse-power.	Date of Sailing.
Glenartney	100 A1	2,016	330	July 21
Glenearn	100 A1	2,120	330	To follow
Glenfalloch	100 A1	2,126	275	To follow
Glenfinlas	100 A1	—	—	To follow
Glenlyon	100 A1	2,119	275	To follow
Glencaigies	100 A1	2,120	330	To follow
Glenygle	100 A1	1,676	200	To follow
Glenroy	100 A1	2,121	250	To follow

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SHAW, WILLIAMS, and CO will despatch the following high class vessels as under:—

Ports.	Ship.	Class.	Tns.	Dock.	Sailing.
Hong Kong	Gryfe	*A1	1073	E.I.	With des
Hong Kong	Carricks	A1 14 yr.	—	—	To follow
Shanghai	Albert	—	—	—	—
Shanghai	Victor	A1 13 yr.	855	E.I.	With des
Shanghai	Titanic	A1 16 yr.	879	S.W.I.	To follow

For Freight or Passage apply to SHAW, WILLIAMS, and Co., 9, Fenchurch-street, E.C.

GELLATLY, HANKEY, SEWELL, and CO. will despatch the following high classed SCREW STEAMSHIPS as under:—

Ports.	Ship.	Class.	Tns.	Dock.	Sailing.
Pen., Sing., H.K. Shang and Japan	Naples	100 A1	2200	V.L.D.	June 28
Pen., Sing., H.K. and Shanghai	Teviot	100 A1	1946	V.L.D.	July 5
Pen., Sing., H.K., and Japan	Lorne	100 A1	1614	V.L.D.	July 10

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Steam via the Suez Canal; last shipping day, 28th June

FOR PENANG, SINGAPORE, HONG KONG, SHANGHAI, YOKOHAMA, and HIOGO. The splendid screw steam ship NAPOLES, 100 A1, 1,440 tons register, 2,309 tons gross register, 250-h.p. nominal, 1,350-h.p. effective; Victoria Docks. This fine steamer was built this year expressly for the India and China trade.

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Steam via the Suez Canal. Last shipping day, 10th July

FOR YOKOHAMA and HIOGO, calling at Penang, Singapore, and Hong Kong, the splendid Clyde-built screw steam ship LORNE, 100 A1, 1,614 tons gross register, 1,035 tons register, 150-h.p. nominal, 750-h.p. effective; M. J. BUTCHER, Commander; Victoria Docks. This fine high-classed steamer, owned by Messrs. John Warrack and Co., of Leith, is favourably known in the Indian trade.

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Steam via the Suez Canal. Last shipping day, 5th July

FOR PENANG, SINGAPORE, HONG KONG, and SHANGHAI, the splendid screw steamship TEVIOT, 100 A1, 1,362 tons register, 1,916 tons gross register, 250-h.p. nominal, 1,250-h.p. effective; W. C. NISBET, Commander; Victoria Docks. This fine high-classed steamer is well known in the India and China trades for her rapid passages.

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Steam via the Suez Canal.

TO SINGAPORE, HONG KONG, YOKOHAMA, and HIOGO, taking cargo for transshipment to Java, Australia, &c., at through rates, at shippers' risk, last shipping day, 28th June, the favourite full-powered screw-steamer PARAGUAY, 90 A1, 1,179 tons, 180-horse-power nominal; W. G. WILLIAMS, Commander; South West India Docks. This magnificent steamer offers the most favourable opportunity for goods and passengers, the elegant and spacious cabins being replete with every comfort.

For Freight or Passage, apply to A. G. ROBINSON, Esq., 20, Mark-lane, E.C.; SMITH, SUNDUS, and Co., 33, Gracechurch-street, E.C.; or to NORRIS and JOYNER, 126, Bishopsgate-street Within, E.C. (corner of Cornhill).

With quick despatch.

FOR SHANGHAI DIRECT, the clipper ship WINDHOVER, A1 16 years, 847 tons register, W. M. FINLAY, Commander; South West India Docks. This ship has made some of the fastest passages on record, and is noted for discharging her cargo without damage.

For Freight or Passage apply to NORRIS and JOYNER, 126, Bishopsgate-street Within (corner of Cornhill), E.C.

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The following **SPLendid** First-class SHIPS will be despatched as under:—

Port.	Ship.	Class.	Dock.	To sail.
Hong Kong	Marina	A1 12 yr.	W.I.D.	With des.
Shanghai	Agnes Muir	A1	E.I.D.	With des.

Apply to KILLICK, MARTIN, and Co., 10, George-yard, Lombard-street, E.C.

FOR Tanjong Pagar, SINGAPORE—The following **VESSels** are now on the berth in LONDON.

Ports.	Ship.	Class.	Tns.	Dock.	Sailing.
Paraguay, s.s.	1,179	Norris & Joyner	June 28		
George Crowshaw	670	Wright Brothers, & Co.	July 10		

LIVERPOOL.
Diomed, s.s. ... 1,201 Alfred Holt ... July 6
Orestes, s.s. ... 2,000 " ... July 15

Scale of wharf and dock charges may be had on application to the Company's London Agents, Messrs. MacTAGGART, TIDMAN, and Co., 34, Leadenhall-street, E.C.

With quick despatch.
FOR YOKOHAMA and HIOGO, the well-known China clipper ALBUERA, A1 17 years (owned by Messrs. John Willis and Son), 774 tons register; R. E. HARRIS, Commander; South West India Docks. This fine vessel is confidently recommended to shippers, and has excellent accommodation for passengers.

For Freight or Passage apply to J. D. WILLIS and Co., 115, Leadenhall-street, London, E.C.

To sail 10th July.
YOKOHAMA and HIOGO (loading in the West India Docks), the splendid clipper ship **WESTERN CHIEF**, newly metalled, A1 14 years, 750 tons register, J. P. HILL, Commander. This favourite ship, known to be one of the fastest in the China trade, has excellent accommodation for passengers.

KNEVITT and Co., 3, Sun-court, Cornhill.

JAPAN SEVEN PER CENT. LOAN
OF 1873.—The COUPONS due 1st July, 1875, on the Bonds of the above Loan and the BONDS drawn for payment on the 1st April, 1875, amounting to £48,000, will be PAID on and after the 1st proximo, at the Office of the Oriental Bank Corporation, 40, Threadneedle-street. Coupons and drawn Bonds must be left three clear days for examination previous to payment.

Oriental Bank Corporation, 40, Threadneedle-street, June 14, 1875.

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